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I. Introduction

Ogu Urban Community is one of the largest towns among the Wakirike Be Se communities (i.e. Okrika nation) in the Rivers State of Nigeria and is ranked the second. The town lies south of Port Harcourt and is about 45 minutes' drive from thence. It is an Urban Area among 24 urban areas designated by the Rivers State Government in 1987, and is the Local Government Headquarter of Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area in the Rivers State of Nigeria created by the late Sani Abacha's Military Regime on 1st October 1996. The LGA has an area of 89 square kilometres (89 k) with a population of 74,683 during the 2006 census. Ogu Urban Town synonymously used with Ogu/Bolo LGA in this work.

Ogu Urban Town with her satellite settlements is geographically surrounded by Eleme LGA in the North, Tai LGA in the North East and Bonny LGA in the South-South, Wakama Ama and Bolo communities (which are part of the Local Government) in the South and Okrika LGA in the South-West, while Andoni LGA in the South-East. It could be reached by air, sea and land (Abomaye- Nimenibo et al; 2017). It has well over 50 satellite villages and fishing settlements that could also be reached, through air and sea from Ogu creek and the Bonny River, while others are accessible by land, through Eleme and Tai Local Government Areas (LGAs). Some of the satellite villages and fishing settlements as enumerated by Abomaye-Nimenibo et al (2017) include:- Tende Ama, Ada Ama I, Ada Ama II, Tamuno Ama (Ofunguru Ama), Yude Ama, New Ogu (Kporo Ama), Chuku Ama, Nemieboka Ama, Igafe Ama, Tendefe Ama, Olobulo Ama, Brown Ama, Afaka Ama, Agakien Ama, Daso Ama, Owukiri Ama, Omodarani Ama, Piri Ama, Ogobo Ama, Iwomabie Ama, Ogweinbie Ama, Owupele Ama, Fombo Ama, Siere Ama, Ogugu-Chuku Ama, Igbikiyemieari Ama, Tububie Ama, Orubie Ama, Anigoboka Ama, Atubonacheofoin-a Ama, Nyanabo Ama, Ogonotoru Ama, Ilanga/Yikabo Ama, Febie Ama, Amabara Ama, Adufe Ama, Chuku Ama II, Ikikafipiri Ama, Olomusoko Ama, Ikpokiri I, Ikpokiri II, Ikpokiri III (Wharf), Tombikuku, Owugono, Ibiorika Kiri, Ibiebele Kiri, Orabere Kiri, Yikabo Kiri, Gream Kiri, Odo Kiri, Abereniboye Kiri, Adokiye kiri, Owuapuigbiki Kiri, Kulo Kiri, Sani Kiri, Apanatibo Kiri, IpiangbafibumoKiri, Bumo Kiri, Semenibipi/Iyo Kiri, Ichi Kiri, Adolphus Nemieboka Kiri, Niniapukiri, Agakien Kiri, Otobipi Kiri, Mbi Kiri, Fulobele Kiri, Mgbemgbeboko (Fubara Kiri) and, so many others which are doted all over the scape of the Eastern Niger Delta. Other towns in the LGA are Ele Town with her villages, Bolo Town with her villages and, Wakama Ama. The people of Ogu are metropolitan in outlook; therefore, settlements taken as villages are big towns in other places (Abomaye-Nimenibo, 2017e).

Ogu also has neighbouring communities such as Sime, Barale, Barayira, Norkpo and Nonwa, all in Tai LGA. Others are Eteo and Onne in Eleme LGA, and Dutch Island, Okochiri, and Okoro Ama in Okrika LGA, as well as Bolo and Wakama Ama communities in Ogu/Bolo LGA that share boundaries with her.

Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area is economically viable. Citizens of Ogu Urban Town are predominantly Fisherman, traders and peasant farmers. Trading is carried out with her neighbouring communities of Tai, Eleme, Bonny, Andoni, and etc. She engages in "legitimate" trade with the Europeans in the

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middle of the last century which increased the volume of commercial activities in Ogu/Bolo LGA, with influx of people from far to her Olobulo, Adufe, Olomusoko, and Tendefe markets which trade became a "large trade" that was well spoken of by Consul Ralph Moor in 1896.

In 1972, Government Secondary School, Ogu, the first post primary school in Ogu/Bolo LGA was established by the then Military Governor of Rivers State Navy Commodore Alfred Diete-Spiff and it started lessons in September 1972 which attract students and other dignitaries to the local government area. For many years, this college remained distinguished from others by its priority of distinction and has made Professors, Doctors of Philosophy, Engineers and Medical Doctors that could not be numbered from all the LGA's of Rivers State and beyond, pushing its popularity both in the West and Middle-belt of Nigeria. By mid-70s, Ogu could boast of a modern hospital, good drinking water and tarred road. The Bolo Community also has a Secondary School, Primary School and a Health Care Centre while the Wakama Ama Community has a Primary School and a Health Care Centre. The Ele Community has a Government Craft Centre which is at its temporary site at the flanks of Ogu Urban Town.

However, the civil war, the creation of LGAs in the country and the great expansion of oil exploration and exploitation activities have had their effect on the people of Ogu positively and negatively. There is no doubt that there is some evidence of development all round. There has been, for instance, a significant increase in the number of educational and health institutions in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area as well as being connected to the national grid which attract population to the area as regards to skilled and unskilled labour.

According to Abomaye-Nimenibo (2017e), Ogu/Bolo LGA has within its territory five oil wells that started production in 1970 attracting all kinds of labour (both endogenous and exogenous manpower).

In addition, several strategic establishments of the Federal Lighter and Ocean Terminals, Onne/Ikpokiri Oil and Gas Export Free Zone Authority, The Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Intel Nigeria Limited, and several other service companies which are located on the left bank of Ogu creek from Bonny River, and also attract human traffic and concentration having social, economic, and urban hazards, devastation of the land and sea with the attendant health hazards from oil spillage and bunkering activities.

The distinctive, and impressive cultural activities of the Ogu people such as the Iria puberty and marriage ceremonies, wrestling, traditional plays, burial ceremonies, installation of chiefs and the traditional rulers ceremonies and many other rites and plays connected with the day to day life of the people attract population to the town, hence increases commercial activities.

Display of colourful and artistic masquerades in their paraphernalia at Ogu town are of a common sight throughout the entire Local Government Area, especially during festive periods. These artistic masquerades were believed to be either religious or historical or personifications of the rich legends of the people, and their classic performances, backed up by the refreshing poetry of songs and music, which bring to focus the high sense of drama and entertainment. This colourful display of culture is an emblem of attraction, and allurement of all kinds of people to the town, hence the concentration of people in this LGA as well as inflow of human stream of traffic thereby populating the geographical expanse of Ogu town.

A variety of dances by both the aged men and women, the young maidens who performs the Iria ceremony as well as the colourful masquerades each unique in its form, also abound from September to December of same year, are all symbols of attraction of people to the Ogu community, replica of any other Ijaw tribe . Musical instruments that are displayed include pots and drums, wooden gongs, horns, and xylophones. All these are made the Ogu Urban Town a centre of attraction to all walks of life. These earthen clay and earthen pots moulded for music, drinking water containers, carving of masquerades and ceremonial canoes etc. is a revered art depicting skills and prowess of the Ogu kingdom and carvers have greatly improved the quality of their work over the years which attract even Europeans to the town to have a well-deserved look and catch of the legendary of Ogu town.

The dances, plays of masquerades depict the religious, social, and working life of the people which brings in economic value to the people and the Local Government. In turn, the lives of the people were influenced by their culture. The average Ogu man loves truth, fair-play, and wholesome dealings that can all be traced to the influence of his unique cultural heritage. You can rely on his words as he hardly could negate.

Above all, the Ogu kingdom is hospitable to strangers and citizens. They are lovers of God, music, entertainment of strangers; and none the least, are warriors having spectacular war canoes ever leading the entire warriors of the Wakirike Be Se Kingdom (i.e. Wakirike nation as a whole), bringing in war captives as slaves who when not sold as slaves, settled down in the town as wives producing offspring's, thereby increasing the population of the town. Her people are great travellers who have travelled round the globe, some coming back with foreign wives and children. She has migrated a lot and has families in other towns such as Bonny, Tombia, and Cameroon republic, etc. It is therefore no gain saying that the citizens of Ogu are industrious, peace loving and commercially viable.

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II. Statement of Problem

Over the years, it has become established that the existence of an efficient and effective human capital is the key to socio-economic growth and development in any nation. More so, in the absence of effective human capital development, an increasing population can have adverse negative effect on the economic growth of a nation as a lot more of resources are taken out to manage and cater for the teeming population that the same can generate, (Brand, 2009). It is therefore correct to state that the economic growth of a nation is significantly dependent on the growth of its population in the rural communities of that nation. The effect or impact can be either negative or positive depending on the existence of certain factors, and conditions. When the existing factors and conditions are studied and understood, then the socio-economic life of the people can be managed or controlled to ensure continuous and sustainable economic growth and development (Dennis, 2004). Nigeria is one of the fastest growing economies in the world. According to Nigerian Population Census (2006),with an estimated population of 140 million and an annual population growth rate of 2.9%, Nigeria is the most populous nation in sub-Sahara Africa and the tenth most populous in the world with an estimated population of 180 million in 2012. However, the composition of this population is dependent on the population of each community with 49% contribution from the rural life, (UNDP, 2007).

Since the population of Ogu is growing geometrically, the question that readily comes to mind, is how does population growth affect the direction and magnitude of socio-economic lives of the people of Ogu in Ogu/Bolo local government area of Rivers State as Nigeria's population approaches 180 million, especially in this era of dwindling economy?

Mass unemployment of qualified and able-bodied youths is so common in the world and this is a concern for both governmental and non-governmental organizations, private and public sectors of the economy. Even, the global economic recession of the 1980's has not really helped matters as regarding employment which has caused untold tremendous deterioration in Nigeria's economic and industrial output. Our experience in the 60's and 70's revealed that youth unemployment was not so pronounced as is the present case because, various governments are taking proactive steps in providing jobs for her graduates who were turned out from various higher institutions into the labour market.

Various governments from President Ibrahim Babangida's (1984-1993) has tried to handle unemployment problems in Nigeria by introducing the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) that turned out to be unsuccessful. President Olusegun Obasanjo when he took over power, also tried his best to solve unemployment problem but without much success. Nwodo (2011) ask the Federal and State Governments to urgently address the growing issues of youth unemployment, insecurity and other social vices rampaging Nigeria.

Against this background therefore, Abomaye-Nimenibo (2015) carried out a study with the view of examining the socio-economic effects of youth unemployment in Uyo Local Government, Akwa Ibom State. His findings revealed that there is a significant relationship between youth unemployment and armed robbery situation in Uyo Local Government Area which was in total agreement with the findings of Seers (2007). Also, prolonged unemployment usually results in some form of social pathology, as reflected by an increased crime rate and violent agitators; and his findings collaborated that of Asobie (2004) that, families with unemployed youths and no source of income generation, as in the case of rural areas who face many economic challenges. They live miserable lives on account of poverty, inflation, unavailability of health services, without good education and portable drinking water. The results of that study further showed that, there is a significant relationship between youth unemployment and armed robbery situation in Uyo Local Government Area; and between youth unemployment and kidnapping situation in Uyo Local Government Area as well as an existing strong relationship between youth unemployment and poverty.

Other findings showed that kidnapping was carried out for ransom as a kind of social revolution by unemployed youths who are not satisfied with their socio- economic lot, and there was high rural-urban drift due to lack of infrastructure in the rural areas. Unemployment and underemployment caused by several factors such as rural-urban migration, corruption, socio-cultural constraints, low educational system and high turnover of graduates from secondary and higher institutions, and the increase in government spending on political office holders. Finally, the state of unemployment causes depression, low self-esteem, frustration and some other negative consequences as was buttressed by Ipaye (1998).

III. Objectives of the Study

Based on these findings in Akwa Ibom State, the Researchers decided to carry out a similar study of Ogu/Bolo Local Government Authority Area (LGA) of Rivers State to ascertain whether the same results could be obtained from this area which is also a Local Government Area in another state.

The main objective of this study is to find out the socio-economic effects and pathological consequences of youth unemployment on the life and activities of Ogu/Bolo in Rivers State. Given, the specific objectives of the research work, therefore, are as follows:

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1. To examine the effects of youth unemployment and armed robbery operations in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area.
2. To examine the effect of youth unemployment on the kidnapping situation in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area.
3. To find out the extent to which youth unemployment has affected the socio-economic wellbeing of the population of Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area.

IV. Research Questions

The same questionnaires used at Uyo LGA of Akwa Ibom State were used especially in the followings:

1. What are the effects of youth unemployment and the level of armed robbery attacks in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area?
2. What are the effects of youth unemployment on the level of kidnapping situations in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area?
3. Does youth unemployment bring about poverty in Ogu/Bolo L.G.A?
4. Does lack of industries in Ogu/Bolo LGA contribute to high rate of youth unemployment in Ogu/Bolo LGA in Rivers State?
5. What are the consequences of youth unemployment in Ogu/Bolo Local Government of Akwa Ibom State?

V. Hypothesis

Based on these and other hypothetical questions, the following null hypotheses were formulated as follows:

1. *Ho:* There is no significant relationship between youth unemployment and armed robbery situation in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area.
2. *Ho:*There is no significant relationship between youth unemployment and kidnapping situation in Ogu/Bolo local government area.
3. *Ho:* There is no significant relationship between youth unemployment and poverty in Ogu/Bolo LGA of Rivers State.
4. *Ho:* There is no significant relationship between lack of industries and youth unemployment in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area.
5. *Ho:* There are no consequences of youth unemployment in Ogu/Bolo local government area.

VI. Review of Related Literature

This study posits the concept that employment is one of the basic needs of man. Without employment man may not be able to meet other needs like food, shelter, clothing, and medical bills. An economy is characterized by both active and inactive populations. The economically active ones are referred to as the population willing and able to work and include those actively engaged in the production of goods and services and are regarded as the employed while those who are unemployed are those that are basically not working but are qualified, able and willing to work.

a) The Concept of Unemployment

The International Labour Organization (ILO) defines the unemployed as numbers of the economically active population who are willing and seeking for work, without work being available, including people who have lost their jobs and those who have voluntarily left work (World Bank, 1998).

Fajana (2000) says unemployment refers to a situation where people who are willing and capable of working and were unable to find suitable paid employment. It is one of the macro-economic problems which every responsible government is expected to monitor and regulate. The higher the unemployment rate in an economy the higher would be the poverty level and associated welfare challenges.

Unemployment means a state of joblessness. Briggs (1973) stated that, unemployment is the difference between the amount of labour employed at current wage levels and working conditions and the amount of labour not hired at these levels.

Gbosi (1997) has defined unemployment as a situation in which people who are willing and able to work at the prevailing wage rate are unable to find jobs. Therefore, anybody who is not willing and actively seeking for paid employment should not be counted as part of the employed labour force. If we do so, we may be overestimating the official rate of unemployment. On the other hand, additional workers should not be counted as part of the unemployed labour force. If we do so, we may be underestimating the official rate of unemployment. No matter how one defines unemployment, the underlying philosophy is that unemployment means a state of joblessness.

b) Different Types of Unemployment

Economists world over have used several theories to explain the different types of unemployment in an economy. These different types of unemployment are explained below with their implications for Nigeria's economic growth and development.

i. *Frictional Unemployment*

By frictional unemployment we mean that type of unemployment which occurs when workers spend time searching for new jobs. It is caused by industrial friction in which jobs may exist, yet the workers may be unable to fill them either because they do not possess the basic skills, or because they are not aware of the existence of such jobs. The employable may remain unemployed on account of shortage of raw materials, or mechanical defects in the working of plants. Therefore, the better the economy is doing, the lower this type of unemployment is likely to occur. A worker in Warri may leave his present job to Abuja with the expectation of getting a higher paid job. During this period he away

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looking for a better job, he is without a job, and as such he is classified by labour economists as a frictionally unemployed person. It is important to note that several factors are responsible for frictional unemployment. One such factor is an imperfect flow of information in the labour market. This is because labour markets are not dynamic as the neo-classical economists contended. Also, it usually takes a long time for unemployed workers to get in touch with potential employers who have an available job offered to the public. Again it is of prime importance to note that even though the size of the labour market is constant, at every point in time, there are always new entrants into the labour market. Some of these workers may be searching for employment, while others may not and the underemployed individuals will be leaving the labour force in the search for better jobs. Therefore, frictional unemployment in any country may be determined by the flow of individuals in and out of the labour market and the speed with which these unemployed individuals search for and secure jobs (Gbosi, 1997).

Fajana, (2000, Lindbeck, 1999) stated that ordinarily, this kind of unemployment does not usually pose much threat to individual's welfare, as it is temporary in nature. However, the situation in Nigeria is that of frictional unemployment growing into long-term unemployment and thereby resulting in a stable state of unemployment (Tairu, 2003).

ii. *Seasonal Unemployment*

This type of unemployment occurs as a result of seasonal fluctuations or variations in occupations as a result of climatic changes in fashions. Elrenberg and Smith (1982) observed that the demand for agricultural workers declines after the planting season, and remains low until the harvesting season. Similarly, the demand for construction workers usually falls during the rainy season and peaks up during the dry season. In the tropical region, ice factories are less active in rainy season because demand for ice is low. Seasonal oriented industries are bound to give rise to seasonal unemployment (Wikipedia, 2010). This type of unemployment rarely affects the youths in Ogu/Bolo LGA as the variations in the tidal increase or decrease does not affect the occupation of the people.

iii. *Structural Unemployment*

This occurs when there is a change in the structure of an industry or the economic activities of the country as a result of change in people's tastes or it may be because technology has outmoded and the product or service is no longer in demand. It is mostly to be found in the developing countries of Asia and Africa. This type of unemployment is due to the deficiency of capital resources in relation to their demand. In other words, structural unemployment results from a mismatch between the demand for labour, and the ability of the workers (Alaoa, 2005).

Structural changes can also take the form of decreased demand for a particular skill or a change in technology in a certain industry. Some workers are structurally unemployed because the industry in which they would have liked to work may be decreasing output. Structural unemployment may also occur because there are individuals who look for jobs in a location that has no industry that can use their skills, or because these individuals possess the wrong skills to offer the available employers (Solomon, 1980).

Structural unemployment also refers to a mismatch of job vacancies with the supply of labour available, caused by shifts in the structure of the economy (Bannock et al., 1998). It is believed that much of the 'open' youth unemployment observed in Nigeria is due to structural factors such as the nature of the educational system and its interface with the labour market (i.e., the mismatch problem), technological change, permanent shifts in the demand for goods and services and the skill content of the labour force. The problem in Nigeria, since the early eighties, is that of urban unemployment which has assumed an alarming dimension and a crisis proportion with millions of able-bodied persons who are willing to accept jobs at the prevailing wage rates and are unable to find placements (Onah, 2001).

iv. *Cyclical Unemployment*

Also known as Keynesian unemployment or the demand deficient unemployment is due to the operation of the business cycle. This arises at a time when the aggregate effective community demand becomes deficient in relation to the productive capacity of the country. In other words, when the aggregate demand falls below the full employment level, it is not sufficient to purchase the full employment level of output. Cyclical or Keynesian unemployment is characterized by an economy with shortage of jobs and last as long as the cyclical depression lasts (Thomas, *et al.,* 2001).

The Keynesian economists see unemployment as a situation in which the number of people able and are willing to work at prevailing wage exceeds the number of jobs available; and at the same time, firms are unable to sell all the goods they would like (Bannock *et al.,* 1998).

When carefully analysed, the Keynesian unemployment largely applies to the situation in Nigeria. It can be established that one of the factors accounting for this ugly trend is the unpatriotic taste of many Nigerian consumers including the government that indirectly exports jobs abroad at the expense of the domestic economy. By way of the uncontrolled foreign tastes for virtually all commodities, the domestic producers are faced with the problem of low demand that naturally forces them to lower output and of course reduce the work force. This experience continues in some firms especially the small-scale ones till they are

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pushed out of the market resulting in the loss of more jobs. This results in unemployment persistence. It is a core problem in Africa that has forced many graduate job seekers to take to under-paid and menial jobs (Machin and Manning, 1998).

v. *Residual Unemployment*

This type of unemployment is caused by the personal factors such as old age, physical or mental disability, poor work attitudes and inadequate training (Morphy, 2008).

vi. *Technological Unemployment*

Technological unemployment is caused by changes in the techniques of production. Technological changes take place constantly, leading to an increased mechanization of the production process. This naturally results in the displacement of labour and finally causing unemployment (Oladele *et al.,* 2011).

c) *Causes of Youth Unemployment*

There are many causes of youth unemployment in the world, and this may differ from region to region. In Nigeria, Youth unemployment is caused by several factors. These include:

i. *Poor educational planning*

It is a widely held view that high rate of unemployment among our graduates is traceable to our educational system. Nigerian educational system does not equip our graduates with adequate skills and tools for societal needs. They also contended that our educational system is faulty because it does not prepare the graduates for self-employment (Obi, 1980).

In the view of Gbosi (2005), "the nature of unemployment is as a result of lack of proper skill expansion in our educational institutions, faulty curricular and orientation. The government is also blamed for the wrong orientation of students and poor salary structure in the public sector that has no special incentives for those who possess such skills". It has also been observed that the current proliferation of higher educational institutions and those seeking higher education for white-collar jobs is the main factor responsible for the problem (Gbosi, 2005). This is closely related to the problem of mismatch between educational and economic planning. Consequently, the rate of graduates turn out rises faster than the expansion of job opportunities. Gbosi (2005) further observed that, our educational system is liberal arts-biased. Every year, our higher educational institutions turn out thousands of liberal arts graduates who are not in higher demand in the labour market. We thus have an influx of graduates into the already saturated labour market. Most of these school leavers apparently could not find jobs. Consequently, they joined the array reserves of the unemployed. This is the situation Nigeria finds herself today.

ii. *Adoption of Untimely Economic Policy Measures*

Following the introduction of the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) in September 1986 that ushered in liberalization, deregulation and the devaluation program of the domestic currency, many of the teething domestic firms collapsed. That resulted in the loss of many jobs and thereby rendering many people unemployed which applies to this local government.

A crucial factor that has elicited unemployment problem is the collapsed of the small-scale and cottage industries which operated in both formal and informal sectors. Following the introduction of the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) in September 1986 that ushered in liberalization, deregulation and the devaluation program of the domestic currency, many of the teething domestic firms collapsed. This resulted in the loss of many jobs and so rendering many people unemployed. Although, these policies were designed to jump-start the growth of the economy, given the structure of the Nigerian economy, some of the policy packages became out rightly inimical to the system due to their unseemliness (Momoh, 1998).

iii. *The wrong Impression about Technical and Vocational Studies*

Damachi, (2001) stated that there had been some wrong impression created in the minds of students about technical and vocational education which accounts for the deteriorating state of unemployment in Nigeria. There is an enduring societal biased attitude against technical and vocational education.

iv. *Lack of employable skills due to inappropriate school curricula*

Analysts have argued that in Africa generally, the skills that the job seekers possess do not match the needs and demands of employers (McGrath, 1999; Kent and Mushi, 1995). It is no gainsaid that educational system in Nigeria has over supplied the labour market with graduates that do not possess the skills needed by employers as many graduates lack entrepreneurial skills to facilitate self-employment; rather than looking for white collar jobs and when not available, the citizen becomes and unemployed youth.

v. *Perception about employment by Policy makers and the Youths*

(Kakwagh Venatus and Ikwuba Agnes, 2010; Akaneze, 2011) were of the opinion that Policy makers and youths, perceive employment as job with a salary and working for someone else which perturb their orientation and attitude to work; hence, institutions in Nigeria are expected to provide skills and training related courses (Williams, 2001). Consequently, curricula and training programmes are generally tailored towards preparing young people for formal sector jobs,

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which is supply-driven; but because these jobs do not exist, there is often a mismatch between the skills possessed by the job seekers and the available jobs. Recently, there has been a strong recognition among policy makers in Nigeria that the absence of artisanal and vocational skills has been responsible for youth employment. It is based on this recognition that the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) was established and the introduction of vocational/Technical courses in many Nigerian Universities, Colleges of Education and Polytechnics. The idea behind this is to train young people to acquire vocational/Technical skills. This is, however, a supply-driven response which has ignored the demand for the skills being offered and the absorptive capacity of states and other institutions to make effective use of these skills (Kakwagh Venatus and Ikwuba Agnes, 2010; Akaneze, 2011).

vi. *Lack of Professional Training*

Like the absence of other educational services, there are very few and inefficient institutes for professional training, especially in the rural areas, (Elaigwu, 2008).

vii. *Lack of Opportunities and market Capacity*

Zack-Williams (2000) stated that the collapse of state institutions and the demise of the traditional family coping with structures had left a social gap which, whereas once filled via the protection offered by the social organization of 'street life', the various military forces are now filling in. In effect, life on the street has given many young Nigerians qualities that make them brave fighters as opined by Kanyenze, et al. (2000) and (Liebrandt and Mlatsheni, 2004). The question is how brave are these young fighters who could not fight unemployment?

d) Pathological or Paraphernalia Effects of Unemploy - ment

a. *Brain drain:* Unemployment especially among university graduates results in emigration of youths and active adult population to other countries such as advanced nations of Europe and America. This brain drain leads to loss of highly educated and skilled manpower;
b. *An Increase in Social Vices and Crimes:* Frustrated unemployed youths could be a recruiting source of armed robbers, prostitutes, economic saboteurs, human traffickers, smugglers, militants, militias, etc;
c. *Fall in National Output:* The existence of unemployment means that a nation cannot maximize the use of its labour force for an increased output;
d. *An Increase in Rural-Urban Migration:* Unemployment aggravates rural-urban movement among youths who move to cities in search of non-existent jobs. This also puts more pressure on existing food and social amenities in the cities. According to the UN Report (1999), the high degree of geographical mobility of youths in Africa in the form of rural-urban migration has greatly influenced youth unemployment.
e. *The Increased Drain on the Government Finances:* The presence of unemployment necessitates an increase in government expenditure in the payment of unemployment benefits in nations where they are paid. The government also spends more for the provision of social services at the same time that it collects less from taxes;
f. *Potential Sources of Political Instability:* The army of unemployed youths serves as recruiting ground for disenchanted, disgruntled and revolutionary elements in the society. Such social and political instability is inimical to development;
g. *High Dependency Ratio:* The mass of unemployed persons will have to depend on the small number of the working population for their survival. This will reduce efficiency and savings;
h. *Low Investment and Low National Income:* As a result of low savings, investment will also fall. As a result of the multiplier effect, income will also be low, thus creating a vicious cycle of poverty;
i. *Fall in the Standard of Living:* Unemployment, through the resulting poverty and income inequality, reduces the standard of living of the masses. Unemployment widens inequality gap, impoverishes the masses and lowers their standard of living.
j. *The Neglect of the Agricultural Sector:* The agricultural sector was said to have been the leading provider of employment in Nigeria especially in the sixties and in the seventies when the sector employed more than 60 percent of the Nigerian population.
k. However, in the wake of oil discovery, agricultural sector was neglected and abandoned for oil thereby resulting in high unemployment. Despite the expansion of the industrial sector, unemployment has continued to grow at an alarming rate, (Mkandawire, 1996).
l. *Poor Enabling Environment:* The poor economic environment that characterizes the economy over the years has continued to pose serious challenges to employment generation in Nigeria. Therefore, many job seekers who would have been on self- employment programs are unable to do so because of the hostility of the production environment as well as lack of conducive investment environment, (Abdullah, 1999).
m. *Unstable Political Environment:* It is a common knowledge that a stable political environment enhances macroeconomic stability; but our experience today, reveals that African countries are characterized by military coups, inter-tribal

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warfare, border disputes and a complete breakdown of law and order. Political instability does not attract foreign investment, (Abdullah, 1999). The inflow of foreign resources has facilitated the expansion of Nigeria's industrial activity thereby make the sector to contribute significantly to the Gross Domestic Production (GDP). Gbosi, (2005) stated that Nigeria has been relatively unstable politically.

n. *High Population Growth:* Unemployment situation was worsened by the alarming growth of Nigerian population which growth has continued to increase due to high birth rate resulting in rapid growth of labour which outstripped the supply of jobs (Nweke, 2002). Again, improvement in healthcare delivery has reduced infant mortality rate which has supported an increased population growth.

o. *General Factors:* Bajoma (1996) has classified the causes of unemployment in Nigeria as (a)Economic (b) Social and (c) Political. The economic causes of unemployment in Nigeria, according to him include factors such as the legacy of colonial rule, the oil boom era (1974 – 1981), and consumption pattern. The social causes of unemployment include factors such as rural - urban migration, demographic factors and educational factors. The political causes of unemployment include political instability, ethnicity problem, emigrants from neighbouring countries and the political economy of unemployment, as was supported by Anioke, (2002).

p. *Socio-Economic Effects of Youth Unemployment:* According to Blanchflower and Freeman (1999), the lack of job prospects and the likelihood of a desolate future for unemployed youths in Nigeria have contributed to socially deviant behaviour such as prostitution, armed robbery, kidnapping for ransom, drugs, political thuggery and so on. Crime and violence have been on the increase in many parts of Nigeria especially among unemployed young people. Youth gangsterism is viewed as a substitute for families, typically satisfying the economic and social needs of unemployed young people through violence.

According to UN-Habitat (2004b), many young people entered the criminal world at a very young age and end up becoming victims of crime themselves; become criminals as a result of the frustration and helplessness. They attribute the combination of youth unemployment and availability of firearms to the trend. For example, Fleshman (2001) says that Youth unemployment has a significant social cost. In addition to the indirect health cost, youth unemployment partly contributes to illicit activities which increase insecurity. The increase in criminality in a country as a consequence of youth unemployment causes losses in foreign direct investment (FDI). For example, foreign investors cited kidnapping and other crimes as the biggest deterrent in investment decisions in Nigeria and more especially, most of the oil giant companies are threatening to quit Nigeria, citing insecurity as one of the major reasons, (Okafor, 2011).

q. *Impact on the Youth:* Unemployment has adversely affected our Youths economically, socially, and otherwise. They become vulnerable to themselves and the society who see them as outcast and makes negative comments of themas useless members of society. These young people become the victims of adverse attitudes of people. Their self-esteem is highly affected as they perceive themselves guilty and incapacitated. Most of these youths therefore, go into prostitution, taking to drugs, alcohol and smoking in order to rescue themselves from depression. Some others become criminals as a result of the frustration and helplessness and do anything they like in order to survive. Many such stories have been reported in our dailies that a lot of our youths are criminals who indulge in killings and robberies. There is also an increasing trend of "suicides" among the youths mainly due to the unemployment and poor living conditions especially in the rural areas, where the trend of suicide has been on the increase. Youth unemployment badly affects the morale and spirit of fellow youths of the society who become dejected and disappointed by looking at their peers and elders unemployed, (Unowa, 2006).

r. *Impact on Society:* The percentage of youth population in our society is more than the adults or the aged or the children. They are the most active and productive members of the society, and if the majority of them are unemployed then it means that the society and its other members shall be adversely affected. Of course, when young and capable people are roaming the streets doing nothing useful, it will create irritation and annoyance in the environment. Unemployed youths who are involved in criminal activities become a nuisance to the other members of the society. In rural areas, there are social issues of "kidnapping for ransom". Youths are also among the professionals who are involved in such activities to kidnap local businessmen and other citizens from the city and its environs. They then cause trouble for the families of the kidnapped by demanding a huge ransom. A good number of them are apprehended and they faced capital punishment of death sentence. So, in this way the society loses a great number of assets of young

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talents due to the unavailability of job opportunities and fair working conditions (Abudah, 2004).

s. *Impact on the Economy:* Our young people are the major players in the market economy and if their unemployment causes a lot of losses to the economy regarding intellectual capabilities and talent lost, then the manpower loss is greater. The labour force of these youths if employed could in no small measure boost up the economy of the nation. The unemployed youths, who are alive, becomes a liability and burden to the economy, as they contribute nothing and yet consumes what is being produced. On the other hand, families with unemployed youths with no source of income generation, as in the case of rural areas, are always prone to face many economic challenges. They lead miserable lives on account of poverty, inflation, and unavailability of good health, education and water facilities as observed by Asobie, (2004).

The socio-economic effects of unemployment in Nigeria, like most other African countries is very severe and threatening to the citizenry and the economy as a whole. The unemployment episode has continued to cause psychological trauma which bothers directly on the unemployed.

t. *Unemployment and Personal Wellbeing:* Unemployment in Nigeria has a very serious negative effect on the personal wellbeing of the unemployed. Until recently when a very small number of the affected people benefited from the poverty reduction program of the government, the effect was quite severe on those involved. In cross-sectional regressions, there is clear evidence that unemployment is associated with lower levels of psychological wellbeing (Machin and Manning, 1998). The unemployed is somewhat worse than being divorced in its effect on subjective measures of personal wellbeing. Unemployment dehumanizes the unemployed and causes partial or total loss of esteem among peers. The unemployed feel inferior before his peer group and sees life as totally derisive or disdainful. This is the situation of many of the Nigerian unemployed youths.

u. *Unemployment and Poverty:* One of the core causes of poverty in Nigeria today is the inability of many job seekers to secure gainful employment. This has further worsened the income inequality crisis that characterizes most African economies. Largely, the increasing level of unemployment can explain the increasing level of poverty in Nigeria for which the available information currently puts at 70 percent. This ugly trend of unemployment rate in the face of rising cost of living, has conditioned many people to a very low and undignified standard of living in Nigeria and the African region as a whole (Jane, 2011).

v. *Unemployment and Social Crimes:* Unemployment accounts for most of the social crimes perpetrated by youths in the Nigerian society today. The accelerating level of prostitution, armed robbery, rape and all facets of violence can largely be attributed to the incidence of unemployment. An examination of most of the apprehended criminals shows that a large number of youths that are engaged in criminal activities are those without gainful employment. Some of these criminals are people who have the potentials for gainful employment but have been denied such opportunity by the society. Unemployment then can be seen as one of the core causes of the rising level of social disorder and insecurity permeating the entire country of Nigeria, (Bannon, 2004).

This study is to confirm or negate that in Nigeria, livelihood opportunities for young people are inadequate and this has compelled many urban youths to gangsterism, armed robbery, thuggery and kidnappings. Most, if not all, of these gangs, have distinct sub-cultures with well-developed social structures that are guarded by a clear hierarchy (Bennell, 2000). However, the proliferations of youth gangs in Nigeria have continued to create problems not just for the larger society alone but to the youths themselves as well. For example, while the society suffers from the effect of hideous crimes such as murders, robbery, rape, kidnapping, violence and other atrocities that the gangsters commit, they themselves, because of their involvement in the 'underground crimes', are excluded from receiving formal education that is necessary for their development as good citizens and from the labour market.

According to Guneen (2002), "crime is directly connected to high rates of youth unemployment. This suggested a connection between a soaring crime rate and youth unemployment which influences the way in which our society is governed and developed". Akinrinde (2007) also asserted that "Nigeria becoming more urbanized has an increased proportion of armed robbery cases". To this end, Diara (2011) opines that "The culture of spraying money at social occasions by the rich encourages the poor youths to be involved in armed robbery and other forms of violence".

w. *Unemployment and Economic Growth:* The adverse effect of high unemployment on the domestic economy cannot be quantified. The availability of abundant human resources if

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utilized could serve as the great catalyst to economic growth but if otherwise, could exert negative influence on the economy. The unutilized large quantum of human resources in Nigeria due to non-availability of employment opportunities has continued to impede on the prospect of growth in several ways. The effect of unemployment such as perpetration of violence and general insecurity threatens economic growth and development to a large extent. Therefore, rather than being a source of growth stimulation, the army of the unemployed remains a potential threat to the well-being of the economy. It is therefore, imperative to note that at a social level, prolonged unemployment usually results in some form of social pathology, as reflected by an increased crime rate and violent agitations. It breeds discontent against the state, and any slight provocative issue or incident may trigger violent demonstrations and social unrest, which may result in loss of life and damage to property, if the situation is not handled properly by the authorities (Seers, 2007).

e) Theoretical Framework

The theories found relevant to this work are the Market Liberal Theory, The Marxist Theory of unemployment and The Merton's Anomie Theory.

i. *Market Liberal Theory*

This theory was originated by Margaret Thatcher in 1990 to fight the growing unemployment that hit Britain at that period (Charalambous, 2000). This theory was a challenge to Keynes view that government could solve economic problems by increasing demand in the economy which could invariably reduce unemployment.

An advocate of this theory was Friedman according to Charalambous (2000) in his writing of what he called monetary Policies to control inflation. He opposed Keynes opinion that increasing demand in the economy will reduce unemployment but that will result in two much money chasing too few goods. To him, government could reduce or even eliminate the problem by reducing the money supplied, thereby allowing less money to circulate in the economy. By that, government spends more rather than expanding its economy as advocated by Keynes. Friedman identified what he called a natural rate of unemployment in the economy saying that government could not reduce unemployment below the natural rate without causing excessive inflation.

Adam Smith, a classical economist in his view posits that unemployment could not exist for a long period, saying that, the unemployed would be prepared to work for lower wages in order to get a job. But Friedman disagrees with this view pointing out that in reality, there is no free market in labour. Other factors, according to Friedman are the Mobility of the labour force and the availability and cost of information about the job vacancies. Based on these views, government policies should target reducing public expenditure, powers of unions and make laws that the unemployed will benefit from. This will make industries more competitive allowing efficient industries to prosper, and this will also reduce the burden of taxation on successful industries while privatization of ineffective industries will make them to withdraw and this will make the cost of employing people to fall as unions will lose power and bargaining position as workers become weak and there will be incentives to take low paid work, hence reducing youth unemployment in the economy.

This theory advocates a reduction of government expenditure such as the withdrawal of incentives and subsidies from ineffective industries, the reduction in taxation of unsuccessful industries and also privatizing national industries which are believed to generate employment opportunities for youths thereby, reducing youth unemployment in our nation.

Towing this line as does Keynes Theory of Unemployment, Lawal (2000) was of the view that unemployment problem will be solved. This theory hence stipulates that the higher level of employment will stimulate further investment and employment. Keynes believed that the level of business activity and employment depends on the level of income which determines the extent of savings and investment. So, he suggested that, if government uses some of the money it lavished on frivolous events and redirects to investing in economic activities, there will be creation of employment opportunities in the economy and unemployment would be reduced in the country.

ii. *The Marxist Theory of Unemployment*

The Marxist theory of unemployment is also known as "reserved army of labour theory. It is a theory of conflict that derived its origin from the Marxian school of thought and it was propounded by Karl Marx. To White (2004), the theory refers "to the unemployed in the capitalist society" or "relative surplus population". By the word "army" refers to the workers who queue up at company's gate and web sites in search of available job vacancies, and those workers who are conscripted and regimented in the workplace in a hierarchy, under the command and the authority of the owners of capital. This idea of the industrial reserve army of labour was in circulation in the British Labour Movement in 1830's. During this period, big industries usually require the services of the reserve army of unemployed workers for times of over- population with the aim of having cheap labour. Therefore, over-population is only for the benefit of bourgeoisies but it creates social and psychological effects on the proletariats, especially the youths that constitutes the majority of working population. Even those who are working may be underemployed,

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underpaid and that they cannot pay their bills as well as take care of other necessities and those who are ready to work but could not find jobs, find themselves in devastating situations that is very destructive to societal development (Mcgahey, 2006).

Charalambous (2000) opined that unemployment results from the capitalist system. He believed that unemployment is an endemic problem of capitalism. To him, the capitalist economy always has the highest level of unemployment and especially at periods of crisis when unemployment rises. The bourgeoisie competes among themselves in-order to succeed; they invest their profit to acquire new machinery for more efficient production of goods thereby accumulating capital in the form of machinery for production. The exploitative tendencies of the bourgeoisie are such that capitalist economy has no good intention for the worker. Workers in private companies are denied job securities and their welfare is not in their agenda of welfare plan. The goal of bourgeoisie is maximization of profit and surplus values. That is why Karl Marx predicted that workers will eventually realize that they are being exploited, and will develop class-consciousness and finally overthrow the capitalist system. In essence, Karl Marx postulates that capitalism perpetrates unemployment.

iii. *Social Internationalist Theory*

This is a theory hypothesized by Max Weber which explains the causes and effects of unemployment in the global economy in the mid-century. Marx Weber is of the opinion that unemployment is caused by many factors in a modern market economy. These factors includes; rapid technological change, business cycle recessions, seasonal factors in some industries particularly, such as changes in tastes and climatic conditions which inadvertently affects demand for certain products and services, individual perceptions, willingness to work and attitudes towards some jobs, employers receptivity to training and retraining as well as acquisition of work skills, and discrimination in the work place based on race, colour, religion, ethnicity, age and class.

Above stated causes and effects of unemployment in a particular period, can be a combination of other social factors affects the economy; and how the economy as a whole works in conjunction with individual factors. Marx Weber is of the opinion that unemployment is caused primarily by the social factors rather than by the individual factors. However, Weber believed that individuals construct their social construct and perception and they can be subjective in their behaviour and therefore, can become unemployed even though in the actual condition they can get a job in the job market.

Even though unemployment is caused by interactions between the social structures in the society, its effects on youths are caused by the individuals themselves in that an individual can be unemployed in the society, but the action taken after the conditions is as a result of the individual's decision and not the societal effect. In summary, unemployment is caused by the social structures in the society and its effects, such as the psychological effects, social unrest, etc. In the general sense, unemployment is caused by the individuals in the social structures.

iv. *Anomie Strain Theory*

It is one of the theories that have been extensively studied in the functionalist perspective. The word "Anomie" was coined by a French Philosopher Jean- Marie Gujau and later developed by Emile Durkheim, and further explained by Robert K. Merton in 1940s. In Durkheim usage, Anomie refers to a situation in which cultural norms breakdown because of rapid change in the society. For instance, since the industrial revolution, the increasing rate of unemployment in the global economy have pushed unemployed person to a stage of anomie that is characterized by major strains in various nations of the world.

According to Merton, 'Anomie Strain refers to a situation in which there is an apparent lack of fit between the culture's norms about what constitutes success in life (such as goals, power, prestige or wealth) and the culture's norms about the appropriate ways to achieve those goals (such as means, employment, hard work, etc.). When these are not available or are hard to come by, people are pushed to a stage of normlessness (Anomie, Social unrest, Crime, Psychological trauma and so on) in order to meet the societal approved goals that every society has set as a standard for individuals.

Merton analysis can be understood, first, as a result of our emphasizing success goals more than we emphasize approved means of achieving those goals, and second, our emphasis on the same kind of success for everyone even while the race, ethnicity and class stratification of the society limits the opportunities for success by those in the less privileged groups.

How do people respond to this disjunction of goals and means is what matters. Merton creates a typology of adaptations. The first symbol designates people's relationship to norms about goals; the second symbol designates their relationship to norms about the means of achieving those goals. In his typology, a "+" means acceptance, a "-" signifies rejection and "X" means rejection of prevailing values and substitution of new ones.

Based on the foregoing, there can be no doubt that Anomie Strain theory is preferred due to its intellectual advantages over other theories as it draws a pictorial correlation analysis concerning unemployment and youths activities in the society. It also provides a vivid findings and discovering of new variables about the

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subject matter. That is, the cause and effect between independent and dependent variables which produce a new result (thesis + anti-thesis=synthesis).

This research adopted "anomie strain model" as its theoretical guide. The theoretical contribution to this study would be directed at properly situating unemployment both at the individual and societal levels within the framework of our chosen perspective. This study strives to show that on a theoretical level, the phenomenon of unemployment can be better understood within the objective dimension of "anomie" about the individual, rather than with the subjective dimension which focuses on exploitation or changes in the economic structure.

VII. Method of Study

a) Research Design

Ekong (2003) is of the view that research design is a plan, blueprint or guide for data collection and interpretation. We therefore, adopted the survey method of study to generate the required data. Hence, questionnaire and interview method were used as the major instruments of data collection. The interview method is for all respondents who cannot fill the questionnaires.

b) Research Population

The entire population of the study, Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area is Seventy four Thousand, six hundred and Eighty-Three (74,683) people, according to (NPC, 2006). This population comprise of people in sixty-five (61) satellite villages of Ogu Urban Town alone with twelve (12) wards (Ogu – 6 wards, Bolo- 4 wards, Ele – 1 ward, Wakama – 1 ward) and four (4) clans (Ogu, Bolo, Ele, Wakama Ama). The population for the study is an infinite one but youths between the ages of 18 and 35 years constitutes the respondents.

Therefore, 1,050 respondents were selected using judgmental sampling technique instead of using Taro Yamane sample size determination formula given

$$= \frac{N}{1+Ne2}$$ (Where:

n	=	Sample size to be determined
N	=	Finite population
1	=	Constant
e	=	Level of significance taken to be 0.05).

The sample size can be derived thus:

$$n = \frac{74683}{1+74683\times.05^2} = \frac{74684}{187.71} \cong 398$$

This formula gives us a sample size of 398 but since the previous research conducted at Uyo Local Government Authority Area of Akwa Ibom made use of 1,050 respondents, we decided to use the same sample size for accurate comparism of results so obtained.

The population of the study is made up of youths of employable age between the ages of 18-35 years both graduate, secondary school leavers and some artisans.

c) Sample Size

Due to the cost and difficulty involved in covering the entire population of interest, with a determination to minimize error and to achieve the purpose of this research work, one thousand and fifty questionnaires were administered in the 12 wards of Ogu/Bolo the headquarters of employable age between the ages of 18-35 years who are graduates, and secondary school leavers who are job applicants. This implies that 1,050 respondents out of the entire population were selected, and they are from the various villages in Ogu/Bolo LGA of Rivers State.

d) Sampling Techniques

For objectivity, the 1,050 respondents used for the study were selected through the combination of simple random sampling and the judgmental sampling techniques. The justification of using the simple random sampling method in selecting the villages for the wards to ensure that all the 61 satellite villages in Ogu Urban Town and those of Bolo, Ele and Wakama Ama all in the Ogu/Bolo Local Government Authority Area were sampled and fairly represented in the study without bias, while the use of judgmental sampling technique was used in selecting respondents from the villages to ensure that no bias was introduced in selecting the respondents. Using the above methods, two villages were selected from each of the wards. Generally, 1,300 questionnaires were distributed in all to youths of employable age between the ages of 18-35 years who are graduates, secondary school leavers, and some artisans.

e) Research Instruments

The researcher employs both the primary and secondary source of data collection. The required data from the fieldwork was generated through the use of structured questionnaires and interview for ascertainment or confirmation from the respondents to cross-check whether what they filled was the same thing with what they answered. The questionnaire were ranked and scored using a 5-point Likert scale as follows:

Strongly Agree	(SA) = 5
Agree	(A)=4
Disagree	(D)=3
Strongly Disagree	(SD) =2
Undecided	(U)=1

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f) Reliability/Validity Test of the Research Study Instruments

To ascertain the reliability and the validity of the instruments used for the study, the co-efficient reliability method was used which allowed room for the same questionnaire to be administered twice to the respondents and the correlation between their responses on the two occasions helps us to determine the co- efficient of stability and we rely heavily on the content validity method, of ascertaining that all the respondents understood the questions being postulated.

g) Questionnaires Returned/Analysis

On the whole 1,300 copies of questionnaire distributed, and a total of 1,020 were returned duly filled but a few of them were spoilt.

As earlier stated, the descriptive technique and a 5-point likert scale method were adopted to measure the strength of the structured questionnaire.

Hence, we make use of the chi-square X^2 statistical test to validate the statistical significance of the research findings. This is considered more appropriate to enable us test the significance of the differences between the observed frequencies and the frequencies expected on the basis of our earlier stated hypotheses. This result would help us draw valid conclusion from the study. The formula for the chi-square X^2 statistical analysis is given as:

$$X^2 = \sum \frac{(Fo - Fe)^2}{Fe}$$

Where Fo = Observed frequency

Fe = Expected frequency

$\sum$ = Summary sign for total frequency

If the observed frequencies are very close to the expected frequencies, the X^2 value will be small indicating a good fit, but if otherwise, the fit is poor. A good fit lead to the acceptance of the null hypothesis (HO) whereas a poor fit leads to its rejection.

VIII. Data Presentation and Analysis

The method used in data collection is five points linkert scale as per structured questionnaire and these questionnaires are presented, interpreted and analysed accordingly.

We used simple random sampling technique in selecting the villages from the 12 wards and judgmental sampling techniques in choosing our respondents.

a) Data Analysis

Furthermore, a total of 1,300 questionnaires were administered but only 1,020 questionnaires were collected and the selected good ones so processed were 1,000. Their responses are presented and analysed below in the following tables.

Section A: Socio-Economic Composition of the Respondents

Table 4.1: Sex Composition of the Respondent

Sex	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Male	720	72
Female	280	28
Total	**1000**	**100**

Table 4.1 above shows the composition of the respondents based on gender. The table shows that male respondents of 720 representing 72% were more than female respondents of 280 showing a 28%.

Table 4.2: Age Distribution of the Respondents

Age	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Below 20	170	17
20 – 30yrs	480	48
31-40yrs	350	35
Total	**1000**	**100**

Table 4.2 reveals the majority of the respondents fall between the age of 20 – 30 years i.e. 48% of the total number, followed by those aged 31 – 40 years representing about 35% while those aged below 20yrs are few representing only 17%.

Table 4.3: Marital Status of the Respondents

Category/Status	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Single	535	53.5
Married	268	26.8
Divorced/separated	108	10.8
Widowed/widower	89	8.9
Total	**1000**	**100**

The marital status of the respondents in table 4.3 shows that majority of the respondents were single (53.5%), followed by married ones (26.8%) while those separated/divorced (10.8%), and the rest 8.9% are widows/widowers.

Table 4.4: Distribution of Respondents by Number of Children

No. of Children	No. of Respondents	Percentage
None	501	50.1
1 – 3	311	31.1
4 – 6	188	18.8
Total	**1000**	**100**

The result of the survey shows that 50.1% of the respondents have no children as shown in the above table while 31.1% has children between the ages of 1 – 3 years and only 18.8% have children between the ages of 4 – 6 years.

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Table 4.5: Educational Level of the Respondent

Literacy Level of Respondent	No. of Respondents	Percentage
No. formal education	35	3.5
Primary Education	98	9.8
Adult education	30	3.0
Secondary education	369	36.9
Tertiary education	468	46.8
Total	**1000**	**100**

Educationally, the result shows that 3.5% of the respondents have no formal education, At least 9.8% has primary education and 3.0% had adult education, while 36.9% have secondary education. Those that had tertiary education represent 46.8%. A total of 83.7% respondents have secondary and tertiary education. This shows that most of the respondents representing 96.5% have at least formal education.

IX. Discussion of Results

a) Testing of Hypotheses

In testing the hypotheses, chi-square statistics is used,

$$X^2 = \frac{\Sigma(O-E)^2}{E}$$

Where
X^2 = chi-square
O is the observed frequency and
E is the expected frequency.

b) The Decision Rule

In testing the hypothesis, if the calculated chi-square (X^2) is greater than the tabulated or theoretical chi-square (x^{2*}) at a given level of significance and degree of freedom (df), we accept the hypothesis, otherwise we reject the hypothesis and regard it is as a null hypothesis.

Hypothesis 1

There is strong/significant relationship between youth unemployment and armed robbery situation in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area.

Table 4.6: Response to Test on Relationship between Unemployment and Armed Robbery situation

Details	Male	Female	Totals
SA	560	105	665
A	182	48	230
D	34	15	49
SD	26	12	38
UN	5	13	18
Total (M)	807	193	1000 (T)

(Hypothetical Data)

To calculate the expected frequency (E) using $E = \frac{MN}{T}$, we have:

$$\frac{807 \times 665}{1000} = 536.66; \quad \frac{807 \times 230}{1000} = 185.61; \quad \frac{807 \times 49}{1000} = 39.54;$$

$$\frac{807 \times 38}{1000} = 30.67; \quad \frac{807 \times 18}{1000} = 14.53$$

$$\frac{193 \times 665}{1000} = 128.35; \quad \frac{193 \times 230}{1000} = 44.39; \quad \frac{193 \times 49}{1000} = 9.46$$

$$\frac{193 \times 38}{1000} = 7.33; \quad \frac{193 \times 18}{1000} = 3.46$$

Table 4.7: Observed and Expected Frequency Table

Observed frequency (O)	Expected Frequency (E)
560	536.66
182	185.61
34	39.54
26	30.67
5	14.53
105	128.35
48	44.39
15	9.46
12	7.33
13	3.46
1000	**1000.00**

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Using $x^2 = \frac{\Sigma(O-E)^2}{E}$, we have:

$$\frac{(560-536.66)^2}{536.66} + \frac{(182-185.61)^2}{185.61} + \frac{(34-39.54)^2}{39.54} + \frac{(26-30.67)^2}{30.67}$$

$$+\frac{(5-14.53)^2}{14.53} + \frac{(105-128.35)^2}{128.35} + \frac{(48-44.39)^2}{44.39} + \frac{(15-9.46)^2}{9.46}$$

$$\frac{(12-7.33)^2}{7.33} + \frac{(13-3.46)^2}{3.46}$$

→ 1.02+0.07+0.78+0.71+6.25+4.25+0.29+3.24+2.98+26.30 = 45.89

Therefore, the calculate $x^2 = 45.89$

At 5% (0.05) level of significance using two degrees of freedom (2df), the tabulated or theoretical chi-squared, $x^2 = 5.991$. Since the calculated chi-square (x^{2*}) of 45.89, is greater than the theoretical chi-square (x^2), we therefore, accept the hypothesis which states that "there is strong/significant relationship between youth unemployment and armed robbery situation in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area.

Hypothesis 2:

H_1: There is a significant relationship between youth unemployment and the level of kidnapping situation in Ogu/Bolo Local Government.

Ho: (Null Hypothesis): There is no significant relationship between youth unemployment and the level of kidnapping situation in Ogu/Bolo Local Government.

In the context of analysing this hypothesis, the respondents were asked in question No. 4, whether there are Kidnapping incidences in Ogu/Bolo as a result of unemployment".

Table 4.8: The Analysis of Question 4

Details	Male	Female	Total (N)
SA	100	44	144
A	21	15	36
D	200	85	285
SD	400	106	506
UN	10	19	29
Totals (M)	731	269	1,000 (T)

(Hypothetical Data)

Using $x^2 = \frac{\Sigma(O-E)^2}{E}$,

$$E = \frac{MN}{T} = \frac{731 \times 144}{1000} = 105.26; \quad \frac{731 \times 36}{1000} = 26.32$$

$$\frac{731 \times 285}{1000} = 208.34; \quad \frac{731 \times 506}{1000} = 369.89 \quad \frac{731 \times 29}{1000} = 21.20$$

$$\frac{269 \times 144}{1000} = 38.74; \quad \frac{269 \times 36}{1000} = 9.68 \quad \frac{269 \times 285}{1000} = 76.67$$

$$\frac{269 \times 506}{1000} = 136.11; \quad \frac{269 \times 29}{1000} = 7.80$$

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Table 4.9: Observed and Expected Frequency of Question 4

Observed frequency (o)	Expected frequency (E)
100	105.26
21	26.32
200	208.34
400	369.89
10	21.20
44	38.74
15	9.68
85	76.67
106	136.11
19	7.80
1000	1000

$$\text{Using } x^2 = \frac{\Sigma(O-E)^2}{E}, \text{ we have}$$

$$\frac{(100-105.26)^2}{105.26} + \frac{(21-26.32)^2}{26.32} + \frac{(200-208.34)^2}{208.34} + \frac{(400-369.89)^2}{369.89} +$$

$$\frac{(10-21.2)^2}{21.2} + \frac{(44-38.74)^2}{38.74} + \frac{(15-9.68)^2}{9.68} + \frac{(85-76.67)^2}{76.67} +$$

$$\frac{(106-136.11)^2}{136.11} + \frac{(19-7.8)^2}{7.8}$$

$$0.26 + 1.08 + 0.33 + 2.45 + 5.92 + 0.71 + 2.92 + 0.91 + 6.66 + 16.08 = 37.33$$

Therefore, calculated x = 37.33.

At 5% (0.05) level of significance using two degrees of freedom (2df), the tabulated or theoretical chi-square, $x^2 = 5.991$. Since the calculated chi-square (x^{2*}) is greater than the theoretical chi-square (x^{2*}), we therefore, accept the hypothesis which states that "there is a significance relationship between youth unemployment and the level of kidnapping situation in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area."

Hypothesis 3:

H_1: There is significant relationship between youth unemployment and poverty situation in Ogu/Bolo L.G.A in Rivers State.

H_O: There is no relationship between youth unemployment and poverty situation in Ogu/Bolo L.G.A. in Rivers State.

On the basis of this hypothesis, the respondents were asked; whether Youth unemployment encourages poverty in Ogu/Bolo L.G.A. as captured in question No 3 in the questionnaire.

Table 4.10: The Analysis of Question 3

Details	Male	Female	Totals
SA	380	220	600 (N)
A	250	75	325
D	18	11	29
SD	22	9	31
UN	5	10	15
Totals (M)	675	325	1000 (T)

(Hypothetical Data)

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$$\text{Using } x^2 = \frac{\Sigma(O-E)^2}{E}$$

$$E = \frac{MN}{T} = \frac{675 \times 600}{1000} = 405, \quad \frac{675 \times 325}{1000} = 219.37; \quad \frac{675 \times 29}{1000} = 19.57$$

$$\frac{675 \times 31}{1000} = 20.93; \quad \frac{675 \times 15}{1000} = 10.13; \quad \frac{325 \times 600}{1000} = 195;$$

$$\frac{325 \times 325}{1000} = 105.63 \quad \frac{325 \times 29}{1000} = 9.43; \quad \frac{325 \times 31}{1000} = 10.07; \quad \frac{325 \times 15}{1000} = 4.87$$

Table 4.11: Observed and Expected Frequency of Question 3

Observed Frequency (O)	Expected frequency (E)
380	405
250	219.37
18	19.57
22	20.93
5	10.13
220	195
75	105.63
11	9.43
9	10.07
10	4.87
1000	1000

$$\frac{(380-405)^2}{405} = + \frac{(250-219.37)^2}{219.37} + \frac{(18-19.57)^2}{19.57} + \frac{(22-20.93)^2}{20.93} + \frac{(5-10.13)^2}{10.13}$$

$$\frac{(220-195)^2}{195} + \frac{(75-105.63)^2}{105.63} + \frac{(11-9.43)^2}{9.43} + \frac{(9-10.07)^2}{10.07} + \frac{(10-4.87)^2}{4.87}$$

$$= 41.73 + 78.23 + 890.34 + 845.15 + 1{,}772.56 + 93.46 + 175.10 + 1{,}990.35 + 1{,}891.16 + 371.05 = 8{,}149.13$$

Therefore, calculated $X^2 = 8{,}149.13$

At 5% (0.05) level of significance using two degrees of freedom (2df), the tabulated chi-square, $X^2 = 5.991$ is less than the calculated chi-square $X^2 = 8{,}149.13$. We therefore, accept the hypothesis which states that: "there is strong significant relationship between youth unemployment and poverty situation in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area.

Hypothesis 4:

H1: There is a significant relationship between lack of industries and youth unemployment in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area.

Ho: There is no significant relationship between lack of industries and youth unemployment in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area.

Given the above hypothesis the respondents were asked: Does lack of industries in Ogu/Bolo LGA contribute to high rate of youth unemployment in Ogu/Bolo LGA in Rivers State?

This question is Number 13 on the questionnaire.

Table 4.12: The Analysis of Hypothesis 4

Details	Male	Female	Totals
SA	380	220	600 (N)
A	250	75	255
D	18	11	22
SD	22	9	32
UN	5	10	31
Totals (M)	675	325	1000 (T)

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$$\text{Using } x^2 = \frac{\Sigma(O-E)^2}{E}$$

$$E = \frac{MN}{T} = \frac{675 \times 600}{1000} = 405, \quad \frac{675 \times 325}{1000} = 219.37; \quad \frac{675 \times 29}{1000} = 19.57$$

$$\frac{675 \times 31}{1000} = 20.93; \quad \frac{675 \times 15}{1000} = 10.13; \quad \frac{325 \times 600}{1000} = 195;$$

$$\frac{325 \times 325}{1000} = 105.63 \quad \frac{325 \times 29}{1000} = 9.43; \quad \frac{325 \times 31}{1000} = 10.07; \quad \frac{325 \times 15}{1000} = 4.87$$

Table 4.11: Observed and Expected Frequency of Question 3

Observed Frequency (O)	Expected frequency (E)
380	405
250	219.37
18	19.57
22	20.93
5	10.13
220	195
75	105.63
11	9.43
9	10.07
10	4.87
1000	1000

$$\frac{(380-405)^2}{405} = + \frac{(250-219.37)^2}{219.37} + \frac{(18-19.57)^2}{19.57} + \frac{(22-20.93)^2}{20.93} + \frac{(5-10.13)^2}{10.13}$$

$$\frac{(220-195)^2}{195} + \frac{(75-105.63)^2}{105.63} + \frac{(11-9.43)^2}{9.43} + \frac{(9-10.07)^2}{10.07} + \frac{(10-4.87)^2}{4.87}$$

$$= 41.73 + 78.23 + 890.34 + 845.15 + 1,772.56 + 93.46 + 175.10 + 1,990.35 + 1,891.16 + 371.05 = 8,149.13$$

Therefore calculated $X^2 = 8,149.13$

At 5% (0.05) level of significance using two degrees of freedom (2df), the tabulated chi-square, $X^2 = 5.991$ is less than the calculated chi-square $X^2 = 8,149.13$. We therefore, accept the hypothesis which states that: "there is strong significant relationship between lack of industries in Ogu/Bolo LGA and youth unemployment in Ogu/Bolo LGA of Rivers State?

X. Findings

In our study we found that, there is significant relationship between youth unemployment and armed robbery situation in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area of Rivers State although there are a few cases reported in the Local Government which are perpetrated by youths of the neighbouring communities.

This is in total agreement with the findings of Seers, 2007 that at a social level, prolonged unemployment usually results in some form of social pathology, as reflected by an increased crime rate and violent agitators. It breeds discontent against the state, and any slight provocative issue or incident may trigger violent demonstrations and social unrest, which may result in loss of life and damage to property, if the situation is not handled properly by the relevant authorities. We also find that there are petty stealing which has not metamorphose to armed robbery and only a few cases of piracy at sea which are easy crushed by the Joint Task Force (Combined forces of the Army, Navy, Air force and Police) were reported.

Similarly, our findings collaborated that of Asobie: 2004 that, families with unemployed youths and

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no source of income generation, as in the case of rural areas, face many economic challenges. They lead miserable lives on account of poverty, inflation, unavailability of good health, good education and portable drinking water.

The majority of the youths are rather engaged in petroleum bunkering and struggles to do menial jobs as well as embarking on fishing as an occupation for a living. Others are enlisted into the Armed Forces and into volunteered vigilante groups. An average youth of Ogu/Bolo Local Government Authority

Area, more especially an Ogu Urban Town youth is a warrior who prefer to fight than to steal. Anyone caught engaging in stealing are either banished for life from the town and is expected not to return to the town more so for the stigma on him.

Only one case of kidnapping was reported which took place at Bolo at the last Sunday of January, 2018 and was spearheaded by a nephew of the kidnapped erstwhile chairman of the LGA Mr Gilbert Enos. He was picked up right in his bedroom while getting ready to attend that day's worship service. Huge ransom of about five million naira was paid for his release and some the culprits were at last apprehended.

a) Summary of Findings

In the study, we have attempted to identify and examine the socio-economic effects and causes of youth unemployment in Ogu/Bolo LGA, an annexe of Port Harcourt the capital city of Rivers State of Nigeria. We used the descriptive statistical method such as simple random sampling technique in selecting the villages and wards with judgmental sampling techniques in selecting the respondents. We used structured questionnaire with five point's likert scale method and chi-square statistical test for the research findings. From the results obtained, and the data analysed from the study our results are simply summarized as follows:

In examining the hypotheses put forward in the study, whether there is a significant relationship between youth unemployment and the level of armed robbery situation in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area of Rivers State.

In testing the hypothesis, the respondent's responses were analysed and interpreted. The calculated X^2 value of 45.89 is greater than the critical X^2 value of 5.991 at 0.05 significant levels. Since the calculated value X^2 value is greater than the critical values at 5% (0.05) level of significance using two degrees of freedom (2df), the tabulated or theoretical chi-squared ($x^2 = 5.991$), the null hypothesis was therefore rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted which states that "there is strong/significant relationship between youth unemployment and armed robbery situation in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area. This result therefore, confirms the same result that the researcher had in Uyo Local Government Area showing that, there is a significant relationship between youth unemployment and armed robbery situation in Ogu/Bolo LGA.

In testing hypothesis 2, whether there is a significant relationship between youth unemployment and kidnapping situation in Ogu/Bolo L.G.A, the respondents' responses were analysed and interpreted. The calculated X^2 value of 37.33 is greater than the critical value 5.991 at 0.05 significant levels. Since the calculated X^2 value is greater than the critical value, then the null hypothesis was rejected while we uphold the alternative hypothesis, that there is a significant relationship between youth unemployment and the level of kidnapping situation in Ogu/Bolo L.G.A. In any case, only one incident is recorded in the LGA since her creation.

In testing whether there is a significant relationship between youth unemployment and poverty situation in Ogu/Bolo L. G. A. the respondents' responses were analysed and interpreted. The calculated $X^2 = 8{,}149.13$ and df = 2, The calculated X^2 value of 8,149.4 at 5% (0.05) level of significance using two degrees of freedom (2df), the tabulated chi-square, $X^2 = 5.991$ is less than the calculated chi-square $X^2 = 8{,}149.13$. We therefore accept the hypothesis which states that: "there is very strong significant relationship between youth unemployment and poverty situation in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area.

The finding in hypothesis one confirmed that the negative consequent of unemployment includes psychological problems of frustration depression, hostility and this has made some of the unemployed youths go into all manner of criminal activities. The proportion of youths who are unemployed in Ogu/Bolo LGA, get involved in armed robbery and kidnapping though in insignificant number want of money, in complementing whatever they have for living. It was observed that the majority of the unemployed youths in the state has also affected both the individual, family, community, society and government and has hindered the socio-economic growth and development of the state thereby challenging the leadership and people of not only the LGA of study but also Rivers State. Youth unemployment brings about poverty, high crime rate and insolent behaviour which results in death.

Other findings showed that majority of these unemployed youths go into oil bunkering, through the vandalization of petroleum oil pipes to get crude oil for local refining to produce petroleum motor spirit (PMS), Household kerosene (DPK- Duel Purpose Kerosene), Diesel (AGO – Automated Gas Oil) which has claimed so many uncountable souls not only of the youths but adults and their households.

Kidnapping was carried out for ransom as a kind of social revolution by youth especially the unemployed ones who are not satisfied with their socio-economic lot and have decided to take laws into their

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hands to fight for their socio- economic development. This act has given rise to insecurity in the state and has driven a lot of companies and individuals who would have set up industries in the state to other states and even beyond the country. This has adversely affected the LGA and the state in general. This situation presages a great danger for our country's developmental prospects as the country is no longer conducive for foreign industrial investment.

Majority of our youths have not really acquired technical and vocational skills that are marketable for employment in the face of modern technology. There has been high level of rural-urban drift due to lack of infrastructure in the rural areas but for the bunkering activities, the youths have relatively remained in the rural towns irrespective of no steady power supply. However, with the money they made from oil bunkering, power supply generators are being bought to complement the power outage.

Other forms of employment opportunities in the area of agriculture as regards planting food crops was not developed either by the government, through provision of micro-finance and agricultural modernization revitalization, or by the individuals but, a good number of these unemployed youths take to fishing which is their main occupation.

It was also observed that due to oil bunkering business which gives quick financial returns, some of the youths have absconded from western education and have preferred to work in-order to get quick money than going to school which they viewed as wasting of their time. Going to school is no longer their interest and call. This would adversely affect the local, state and the federal government in the future.

XI. Conclusion

The study was able to identified high level of youth unemployment in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area of Rivers State just as was found in Uyo Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State. There has been lack of industries to absorb the teeming unemployed youths in the Local Government Area, although there a few clusters of service companies and Nigerian Ports Authority hosted by Ogu/Bolo and Eleme Local Government Authorities, which absorbed a few youths of the LGA. The socio-economic development of Rivers State is not all that encouraging as companies are predominantly located in Port Harcourt being the headquarters of the state as well as the industrial and commercial city. Consequently, the few foreign oil companies and industrial investment in Port Harcourt Local Government Area are faced with insecurity and has either relocated and has reduced their operations and therefore, a lot of staff were laid off, compounding the existing unemployment problems.

The study was able to reveal that there is prevalent youth unemployment in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area, and as such, youths of the area are into criminal activities like robbery, kidnapping, killings and illegal bunkering's just mention but a few. Youth unemployment has called for a high level of poverty.

Proper educational planning coupled with relevant skills acquisition and technical based courses to prevent employment mismatch is highly recommended for Government. Government should therefore, rise to the challenges of development in the areas of socio-economic development especially in the provision of amenities and basic infrastructures to enhance employment generation. Public enlightenment campaigns should be carried out by the government over the menace of youthful exuberance.

In order to create employment opportunities and reduce poverty, government should revive all ailing industries in the state. In addition, government should encourage the establishment of new industries with small and medium enterprise (SMEs) as engine of growth that will provide the much needed employment opportunity for our restive youths in Ogu/Bolo Local Government Area and the State at large.

Modular refineries should be built for the local youths in other to make them to be meaningfully employed and also to prevent the breaking of pipelines. Once government built these modular refineries or give license to these youths there would be a real turn around technologically and socio-economic advancement.

In the light of the above and in line with the vision of the president Goodluck Jonathan transformation agenda and drive which is still in operation, entrepreneurial development should be encouraged for self-employment and self-reliance more than paid employment. This will in no small measure reduce criminality in the nation and built up self-confidence and reliability in our youths.

XII. Recommendations

It is also strongly recommended that the educational curriculum in the Rivers State and that of Nigeria should be reviewed by laying emphases on skill acquisition and entrepreneurship development in technical and tertiary institutions.

We also strongly recommend that:

1. Modular refineries should be built for the local youths in other to make them to be meaningfully employed and also to prevent the breaking of pipelines.
2. Agriculture (fishery) should be promoted and revitalized, through modernization of the rural areas as well as provision of basic infrastructures to check rural-urban migration.
3. Creation of awareness for value re-orientation and proper attitudinal change towards the advantage of crime free life/society be carried out to reduce and if

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possible eradicate all dangers of social vices among youths.

4. Adequate population control should be encouraged to meet available resources as the population of this area is exploding as evidenced by Abomaye-Nimenibo et al (December 23, 2017).
5. Government should provide enabling environment for investment in the country.
6. To fight poverty, crimes and social unrest of our unemployed youths, government at all ties should provide meaningful employment, through the provision of viable economic ventures.
7. Micro-finance institutions should be encouraged to provide the needed funds for development of small entrepreneurs in the state to boast employment generation and wealth creation.
8. The average Nigerian youth is an entrepreneur and as such, be encouraged, mobilize and empowered intellectually, technically and financially.
9. Government to reduce poverty among the citizenry, etc.

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