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Notes from the Editor - In- Chief

Welcome to the first edition of *Transdisciplinary Agora for Future Discussions Journal*. This edition is unique in the assemblage of scholarly works in diverse academic fields. It begins with a critical look at the General Fear Theory (GFT) which Michael Fisher, believes has not been given enough attention in his work and the philosophies; and theories of fearists and fearologists in general. The study, therefore, suggests transdisciplinary research of fear which demands the deepest and broadest thinking about fear.

Current studies on social media look at the utilisation of social media for sustainable economic development. The study on *Fears and Realities: Investigating Social Media Use for Sustainable Economic Development in Nigeria* shows that social media technology has impacted on the Nigerian business terrain for sustainable economic development. Using explorative pilot research, Morah Ngozi, Ogochukwu Ekwenchi and Chiaha Alexander studied vital business executives in Okota, Lagos and Emene, Enugu metropolis and investigated their perceptions on the extent, potentials and prospects of social media deployment for sustainable economic development. The study found that social media is making an impact in Nigerian businesses, though at a minimum rate due to issues of media literacy, phobia and access.

The study on *Revisiting Growth Effects of Government Bonds in Nigerian Capital Market* by Olaniyan Temitayo and Ekundayo Samuel investigated the growth of the Nigerian Capital market and found that low capitalisation of government bonds negatively affects the growth of the market. The study recommends the issuance of government bonds to the public to enhance the efficiency of the capital markets.

The migration of health workers is a worrisome issue in Nigeria's health sector. Stephen Kenechuwu studied the topic: *Information and health implications of health workers' migration on Nigeria's medical practice*. The study used a content analytical approach, and focused on the prominence of reports on migration index of Nigerian medical workers. It found that news of the migration index of medical worker does not receive adequate coverage across mass media. In some case, the sources of information are unverifiable.

Kumar Maria examines the *Problem of corruption: A fearological approach* and argues that irrespective of measures against corruption, it still surfaces. The study adopted a fearological approach to associate the origination of corruption with the feelings of uncertainty and insecurity which in turn are linked to fear. He also analyses the means and mechanisms by which uncertainty and miscalculated curiosity will be resolved through the fearological approach.

In a study on *Thriving in Uncertainty: Disruptive Education and Adaptive Innovative Entrepreneurship* Chukwu Augustus examined a system of education that is psychomotor- driven. He considers how individuals, especially in Third World countries, can thrive through adaptive, innovative entrepreneurship rooted in disruptive education. The author proposes a notion of "individually propelled growth (IPG) as a panacea to failure of government in various underdeveloped countries. He further suggests a new form of education imbued in the type of education promoted through CRIS Academy. It is a type of education which prepares students for the kind of future which technology promises humanity.

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Towards a General Fear Theory (GFT)

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Abstract

A rationale is given for a General Fear Theory (GFT) which the author believes has not been given enough attention in his work and/or in the philosophies and theories of fearists and fearologists in general. He has written this paper for technically sophisticated readers and writers on fear, not for a general audience. He points to several directions, including Integral (Wilber), Consciousness (Freire) and Conflict (Collins) as foundations for "orienting generalisations" and means of building a GFT. A brief history of the good-side and bad-side of generalising theories (e.g. Theories of Everything) in contemporary academic work were discussed. He offers a small number of base premises as examples of what a GFT would look like. There is no point in merely fearing generalisations and grand meta-theories and narratives, as so many do today, especially in a postmodern, postcolonial climate of analysis. There is a good-side worth pursuing, and GFT is one (not the only) example possible to resolve the Fear Problem. The author suggests that TFDs project of Kalu which is recently a form of Fear Talks, validates the importance of generalisation and transdisciplinarity in the pursuit of knowing the truth and reality in general and in relation to fear itself.

Keywords: Fear, Theories of Everything, Fearist, Fearology, Integral

General Fear Theory (GFT)

One may ask why there is a need for a theory of fear, never mind a general theory of fear? Indeed, for most people and even practitioners and teachers who deal with people's fears, that is fear management, often the focus of attention is on concrete "fears" not on the theory or theories behind the practice or intervention as management. I began in 1989 to study fear as my focus. This was motivated by many factors, not the least of which I felt the world had not yet caught up to fear itself. It seemed fear had us in its grip, not the other way around, and the situation of a Fear Problem seemed to be growing. My analysis, based on my prior studies in ecology and environmental sciences led me to take a "systems perspective"—based on general systems theory (theories). This systems approach is more holistic, based on a philosophy of holism, in which it is recognised that 'everything impacts on everything.' The universe of reality is a web of relationships, all linked and intimately exchanging

information, communicating, be it gross level or subtle, micro level or macro level. My earliest assessment of the various disciplines that study fear, and those that teach about fear, typically lack this systems-thinking sensibility. This I believe will not lead to a deeper and more encompassing understanding of the nature and role of fear. It has taken three decades to come to the point of actually naming something called a "General Fear Theory" (GFT). Albeit, I am still working on this and will for some time, but I invite others to join in a systems-thinking modality towards the topic of fear and focus less on "fears" and their control, management, and/or elimination.

Purpose

This paper is intended to posit the initial basis for a rationale of a General Fear Theory (GFT). Although some aspects that make up a GFT are offered, this is not a work that fully articulates GFT because the latter work would take a much longer paper (or book) and still requires more development. Thus, consider this paper on GFT a work in progress with claims that promote an agenda of research, thinking and writing which at best can be pointing to—a move towards—a GFT.

Note, I am writing this paper, in an unusual style for me—that is, without referencing everything. Somewhere in the literature on the topic, you'll be able to find reference sources for everything I claim here. It is a paper written for already technically sophisticated, seeking, and/or established colleagues in the Fearlessness Movement and/or Philosophy of Fearism Movement. However, it also may be somewhat useful for others less specialised in their interests.

Why Do We Need a GFT?

There are many whys behind this question, not just one. No doubt, some of these many whys will be missed in this short paper. I began thinking along this line and labelling GFT recently because of the specific initiation of the project called Transdisciplinary Fear Discussions (TFDs), initiated by Osinakachi Akuma Kalu, a budding young fearologist/fearist from Nigeria. His invitation to me and some colleagues writing about fear today, reminded me of the kind of passion I had going back to late 1989 when I started the In Search of Fearlessness Project (ISOF) as an invitation for humanity to join in a new revision of its knowledge, knowing and understanding about Fear and Fearlessness. ISOF was (still is) a global transdisciplinary general movement (recently called Fearlessness Movement), which I

imagined would contradict the oppressive ideology and pathology of the 'Fear' Project that had over-dominated much of recent human history going back to 5000+ years.

I argued, in general, that a 'Fear' Matrix operated in "design" and "architecture" underneath (often unconsciously) in the way contemporary societies function—and, it wasn't overall a good thing. Even though I have kept an open mind that "fear is natural" and has a healthy, good side/function, I'm highly sceptical of such claims if they aren't nuanced with critical thinking. My projects continued pursuing means to "wake up" humanity and academia. In 2000, I called for a new discipline of Fearology, and in 2006 I called for a new 'Fear' Studies with the desire to gather more people and resources to work on the Fear Problem.

Kalu is calling for a global movement of TFDs. This is certainly in line with my recent teaching videos where I am more or less asking humanity to enter into good quality Fear Talks, just like we needed good Sex Talks, which specifically began nearly 100 years ago in the West (e.g., Freud), in order to overcome the prohibitive individual and collective fears and taboos around these powerful human aspects of fearuality and sexuality.

To reach our highest human potential, we need more than food, clothing and shelter—we need to come to terms with fear(uality) and fear(ism) in all its aspects—because, it is arguable that fear influences everything in powerful ways. As the philosopher, Desh Subba wrote, in his classic text on the *Philosophy of Fearism*, "life is conducted, directed and controlled by the fear." This means, what is required is direct, critical and progressive thinking (philosophising) and theorising about what our relationship with fear is now, what it has been, and also what it ought to be. We require a new Fear Imaginary, is something I often argue, and suggest is foundational to a good fearological education (e.g., training at The Fearology Institute).

"There is something 'wrong' in the field of fear management," I once wrote in *The World's Fearlessness Teachings* (Fisher, 2010), and my point, like Subba's and other fearists today, is that inadequate knowledge and approach to the study of fear exists all over the world. We are on catch-up trying to improve our relationship to fear while it seems excess and toxic fear ('fear') production has

overwhelmed much of human behaviour individually and collectively. The Fear Problem is growing rapidly and threatening life on this planet.

As a start, a general discussion in private and public locations seems an essential way towards a good Fear Education—that is, a good Fear Management/Education (FME). At least, if you review these terms above and notice the generality of the claims together, it points to a hypothetical positioning which centralizes the study of fear through a *fearist lens*, as Subba and myself (*via* a philosophy of fearlessness) have and continue to argue for—that is, a re-visioning of the very ways we know fear (and ‘fear’)—which ultimately is a way of understanding ourselves (our beingness). One new dictum of the good educational curriculum today ought to be (adapting from Socrates): *Know Thy Fearful Self*.

What TFDs raises again, is not only that *fearology* is the transdisciplinary study of the relationship of fear to life, but that transdisciplinarity as a generic ethical and epistemological attitude for a set of methodologies—which are crucial to coming to a more holistic-integral understanding of fear relations and ecologies (e.g., self-fear-Other nexus). "Fear is complex" is a point I make in all my teaching for the past 30 years on this topic. Thus, we cannot use only one philosophy or psychology—or discipline, for example, to understand what we need to understand about fear (‘fear’). Unfortunately, too often the fear managers and educators of the day try to make fear simple, which has a long history in the past as well, especially in major religions and cultural practices. This long legacy may be useful to a new body of knowledge on fear (and FME), but it is in itself reductionistic and out-of-date. Again, these are some claims that I and colleagues of fearism and fearology tend to make, or at least we use them as operational assumptions—even theories.

What is not clear (or discussed enough) is a thorough and explicit articulation in writing of these assumptions or theories by any of us. We have written parts of the GFT I have in mind, but not the whole GFT. It is good we have a rich diversity of views and unique styles to writing and teaching about fear, yet, I think many directions are pointing for us to unifying somewhat a GFT. At least, that is the position I take in this paper.

Kalu's call for a project of TFDs foregrounds that transdisciplinarity is a synthesis of disciplines (disciplinarity), and it includes a discussion of those not even associated with disciplines of thought. The populus has always been included in my own ISOF Project and Subba's Fearism Study Centers, etc. There is no need for intellectual elitist approaches to this topic. Transdisciplinarity is an approach of holistic-integral synthesis, and thus, in less technical terms it is a generalisation approach to fear. The rest of this initial paper will focus on this concept of *generalization*, and what it means under the holistic-integral lens I bring to all my studies of fear ('fear'). I trust a General Fear Theory may be a whole lot easier and more effective than terms like transdisciplinary, for other people we speak to about our work.

What is the Brief History of Generalizing Theories?

I am attempting a two-edge task, along with a two-edge sword, in putting out my desire (call) for a GFT. It sounds like a singularity doesn't it? A (or *the*) General Fear Theory, as if there is only one and it ought to rule all other theories or other attempts of constructing a GFT. My intention and vision is for a GFT, but like all generalised accounts, be it philosophy or theory, is always only a view—one view, and not the only view acceptable in the discussion. TDFs is immediately plural because of the interest of Kalu, myself and others to open the TDFs (i.e., Fear Talks) to the many diverse voices on this planet and across disciplines. At this point, neither Kalu nor myself have written enough about what "transdisciplinary" means and how it is distinct from interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary approaches. That's another project and ought to be part of the TDFs. But I won't focus here on that issue. Rather, my interest is to articulate more clarity on the notion of synthesis of knowledge, knowing and understanding (each, themselves unique epistemic entities)—and, I will approach this by talking about the importance of *generalizing* (on one edge of the sword) and the problematics of generalizing (the other edge of the sword) about Truth/Reality.

One cannot approach the study of fear (ism, ology) without approaching questions about Reality (ontology) and Truth (epistemology) related to knowledge constructions and our ways of seeing ourselves in the cosmos (or, simply in our daily lives). It is a philosophical venture to be a genuinely alive and seeking, growing human being—that is, beyond only a search for basic needs. The self-actualising and transcendent existential needs (e.g., Maslow's hierarchy evolutionary model) are part

of the 'knowing of the self' call for in the general dictum of both East and West philosophies and calls from the mystics around the world. There is a "spiritual" and/or "sacred" sense that being human is about Being itself, and not merely what tribes, cultures, families and society's powers tell us we are and should be. The cusp of fearology and fearism is a location of an investigation into the nature of Truth and Reality as well as small truth and reality as we experience it, theorise about it and debate it philosophically.

TDFs is open to the most basic and most deep conversations on the topic of fear and our being in the world and Being beyond the world. At least, that's my vision for TDFs—because it is transdisciplinary—meaning, it includes and transcends the information from core sciences to the social sciences to the humanities and arts and morals and religions. Nothing is left out of a holistic-integral (i.e., transdisciplinary approach). At least, the ideal is that nothing is left out, but in reality, most of us cannot embrace all disciplines in what they teach about fear. We do our best and try to keep a balance of perspectives and draw from disciplines. Fearology also says that the study of fear ought not to be restricted by the ways other disciplines think (imagine) about fear. Fearology ought to be free to re-imagine, deconstruct and reconstruct other imaginings, and invent its language and questions—that other disciplines would not entertain. That's what makes fearology so exciting to me as a researcher. It is the most creative ways to study fear, and it doesn't rely on other disciplines to tell it what to do and how to think and how to teach about fear. Fearology theoretically is free from disciplinarity in its worst side. Fearology can make vast generalisations, as does the philosophy of fearism when you read Subba's opening "definition" of fear. It is expansive, transdisciplinary and it is creative and flowing. I believe it is fear-free as a way to generalise about fear (and 'fear').

Subba and I thus have led a generalising notion of fear (and/or 'fear') from the start of our projects and philosophies. Generalising on the good-side gives knowing great scope and depth to explore. Transdisciplinarity does the same thing. *Generalising* is more about synthesis not *specialisation*. The unique nature of Subba's and my work is that it also calls for a specialisation—the study of fear as central in human behaviour. Just studying fear as so central is a specialist movement; yet, almost paradoxically, we call for generalising, transdisciplinarity and synthesis—even unifying knowledge,

knowing and understanding of generalities around the global "Fear Problem" (the latter, in my case, of a synthetic conceptualisation). When other thinkers, like Svendsen and Eneyo, attempt to label and develop a "philosophy of fear" they too are specialising the field of philosophy down to one topic, albeit, at the same time their philosophising is grand and generalising. It seems fear cannot be focused on without it including just about everything.

Do we need a grand, unifying, universal generalising theory of fear (?) is something we ought to keep asking. I would argue, as I have indicated above, it seems there is something in the topic and phenomena of fear itself that makes it inevitable that we have to expand generalisations continually. If we only focused on one discipline for sources of our knowledge, e.g., the psychology or biology of fear (e.g., hard and soft sciences), then it intuitively seems too limiting—because fear ('fear') is so beyond anyone field having all the answers—same, as if we were to rely on one religion or one philosophy system to get all the knowledge and answers and solutions. FME is way more complicated and spills out over, and beyond all fields and disciplines, even it spills out over and beyond fearism and fearology. I wish to emphasise this last point.

The history of knowledge (I'm focusing on the Western world), is rife with philosophising about the very nature of "generalisation" (or generalising) as an approach to knowing and understanding. The application of understanding is often made via generalisations, which is especially true in earlier civilisations where generalisations were practical and applied to survival. I won't go into this long history of our species and why generalisation is evolutionarily adaptive overall (e.g., our genes are intelligence coded for general application). So, let me turn to my favourite theorist, and philosopher, Ken Wilber, as he has for years been working on a "Theory of Everything" (TOE) (of which many other synthesisers have also been doing, often TOE is associated with Albert Einstein's "general theory of relativity"). Searching for a general theory to explain everything is not new. Fearism is just like that, in a certain way—as it is claiming everything can be understood (explained) by fear—and, concomitantly the study of fear—and, concomitantly a theory of fear.

Wilber argues, we need to develop a balance: not just generalities but also specificities. Our knowledge systems and ways of living that depend on that knowledge ought to be integrated—integrating—and holistic-integral. They ought to care about both specifics (details on the ground) and generalisations (more abstract patterns of synthesis). I agree with the balance. The problem is, that over-generalisations have accompanied most of the modernity (and colonisation of knowledge). The destructive legacy of say W. Enlightenment generalizations (e.g., of progress, and evolution of races, etc.) has been recognized in much of the contemporary world (e.g., postmodern critique) and now in the academy there is a strong political correctness to be only interested in the local and specific knowledge of people, things, places—and, generalizations (e.g., grand narratives about reality) are to be shunned as oppressive. That's the down-side of generalisations and synthesis. It has motivations historically that have been dominating and colonising and with a tendency to wipe-out other forms of different pieces of knowledge (and peoples who hold them). Universalising is one form of generalising that is now very unpopular and criticised severely in postmodernism and postcolonialism philosophies.

However, arguably, even that postmodern and postcolonial philosophy of critique is based on generalising assumptions and premises—perhaps, it is filled with its contradictions, as Wilber suggests. Wilber, then argues in his work that "orienting generalisations" is the best way to go when one is "integral" and/or holistic and interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary—that is, when one is searching for meta-theories to explain the world (e.g., TOE). "Meta" theories, meta-data, and meta-analysis are now coming back into popular and technical languages if you haven't noticed. Part of the reason, Wilber argues, is because the world is so information/data-saturated and complex, that we have to make generalisations using meta-analysis techniques and methodologies. It is a whole new field and problem for humanity. How to create patterns and uses of massive amounts of data is critical to our species survival.

So, a general theory of fear (i.e., GFT) seems appropriate to pursue in light of the above and in terms of the need for a synthesis of massive complexity of knowledge that is now being collected by people like myself (fearologists). As I have argued in my recent videos, there simply has not been a systematic study of fear that is all-encompassing on this planet—that is, that is transdisciplinary. So, up to now, a

GFT was not only not possible; it was of no interest. I think that is unfortunate historically, but so be it. Now, is when we can turn this around and give fear its due as central in human history and affairs today. I am suggesting, in Wilberian fashion, that orienting generalisations can be constructed about fear (and 'fear')—and, I have been doing this for some time. These are only meant to orient us in our relationship to fear and not meant to dictate to us about fear (and, about FME). Once dictating generalisations are in place then we reduce knowledge to rules, regulations, regimes of truth at the expense of other truths, and we create an Absolute or totalizing hegemony—that is, an ideology of the worst kind. Universal truths and generalisations have been problematic as I said throughout history, and have attempted to control people and all knowledge and truths. The down-side of generalisations have a shadowy history, and they still exist.

The challenge for fearism and fearology is to use orienting generalisations, realising that many people (especially postmodern academics) will fight against any such attempts. We have to be empathetic and understand why they will resist with vehemence. We have to learn to talk with our 'enemies' in other words. How to have Fear Talks that even our enemies can feel they are invited and have a voice. TFDs ought to be so inviting. Let's be honest when we get afraid of our enemies, of those with different views. And, at the same time, I like how Wilber describes the power of integral theory because it also discriminates in rational and arational ways that all knowledge and all views are not all of the equal value for all problems to be solved. There is where the controversy will come in big time. We have to be prepared for it. I suggest there is a long history of 'good' applications to generalising. Things like "General Semantics" theory, "General Systems Theory" etc. can be studied to learn lessons of the good-side and bad-side.

Then I turn also for guidance to develop specifics (and generalisations) of GFT to the field of sociology especially. I have found the philosophy, theories and critical thinking in sociology, particularly informing of my ways and critiques re understanding fear in societies not just in individuals. Sociology of fear body of knowledge is a great domain (base) for all fearism and fearologist folks. It is suitable for all FME, to put it bluntly. However, there are lots I also find reductionistic in that discipline of sociology. One promising potential, I believe, within sociology is the distinction of the four or five significant

theories that articulate the discipline of sociology (again, I'm focusing on the West)—these are outlined in an excellent book by Randall Collins (1994 ed.) *“Four Sociological Traditions”* (even if it may be a little out of date now).

I first encountered Collins' meta-synthesis of sociological theories (or standpoints, or lenses) when I was studying 'conflict' from a holistic-integral perspective in my master's degree. What I found in the sociological literature was a huge battle going on (still is) between a generalising functionalist model of reality and truth compared to a generalising (far less dominant) conflict model of reality and truth. I spent years studying these two major lenses (theories, standpoints). I found that they both had some truth, but I mostly thought that the best truth, the most "fearless" of the two approaches was the conflict approach—which Collins said comes from the Conflict Tradition (of many philosophies and theories over history). This Conflict Tradition emphasised "conflict" itself in human social reality (e.g., Marx) and also in individual reality and psychology (e.g., Freud). The conflict was the phenomena at the centre of explaining everything (nearly) for the conflictologists. Indeed, people were using that term, and yet it never becomes popular as conflictology. The analogy with fearologists and fearology could not be ignored, and I always thought there was a Fear Tradition too in history that was buried because people and the academy didn't want to focus on fear, just like they, in general, didn't want to focus on conflict. The functionalists especially downplayed conflict, even if they admitted it in their forms of sociology. Any sociologists did not highly acknowledge fear until the mid-1980s. That was an exciting discovery itself.

So, it occurs to me that when I look at how Collins classifies thinkers, philosophies, and theories into a meta-category of "Conflict Tradition" maybe there is a "Fear Tradition" (?) This is an idea to pursue in the future. What I did do, instead, is to argue there is a Fearlessness Tradition eventually, and in many ways, it focuses on both fear and fearlessness. The Fearlessness Movement, e.g., is my way to coordinate the Fear Tradition of theorising. That aside, Collins' offers structures for thinking how to articulate the Conflict Tradition and what inevitably is a tradition dedicated to a general conflict theory (GCT). Alright, that now leads me to think if a Fear Tradition can be articulated, which includes the Fearlessness Tradition/Movement, then a GFT is inevitably going to come out of that pursuit.

Another track, beyond Wilber's and Collins' work, is the work of Paulo Freire's generalising way of bringing about liberation. Note, Wilber's and Collin's "conflict perspective" or tradition is also an emancipatory framing and philosophy, of which the functionalist meta-view is not interested in. Friere, the Latin American critical pedagogy developed (with others) a general theory of conscientization or critical consciousness. This I believe is significant work to be integrated into fearwork (and/or conflictwork). Freire's 1973 book *Education for Critical Consciousness* outlines on the ground practical approaches to getting people to "wake up" to how they are oppressed by the consciousness (and structures) of the dominant elite in the world and their villages. I see his general theory of oppression and liberation as completely about the problem of fear that goes with oppression. And, he describes theoretically (and practically) how the pursuit of liberation for the oppressed is always a conflict of interests and a path of great fear—because to not conform to the oppressors and internalised oppression of one's oppressed peers, is to face "rejection" on both sides. Thus, "fear of freedom" is a concern of Freire and Erich Fromm, the great psychoanalyst. That's another topic for another time.

What I am merely pointing to in this paper is possibilities for drawing upon to create a good GFT. The Integral, Conflict and Consciousness approaches I have mentioned are all part of a meta-theory called "Critical Theory" (it is a debate which is the largest umbrella term for these all). Critical philosophy and theory has a long tradition and carries various lenses, but they all come down to a "conflict lens" that is brought on to reality and truth—especially sociologically speaking but it goes beyond that domain as well. I am a critical theorist and pedagogue, and philosopher. I put Conflict and Fear at the centre of all human activity, and I could just as quickly put them at the centre of all living organisms. But, for purposes of TFDs and advancement of fearology and fearism, I focus on Fear (and 'fear'), but I do so within the critical theory tradition of emancipatory schools of thought. I embrace the functionalist perspective only to a point, as any good holistic-integral theory must, but a GFT that I am going to be interested in is going to be an emancipatory GFT; otherwise, I find it will not likely be an ethical path or fearlessness path that is being promoted. Functionalism is not interested much in oppression-liberation dynamics nor Love-Fear dynamics, as you'll notice I give a lot of attention in my fearwork.

What Are a Few Basics of a Future GFT?

Although I acknowledge that all people reading this paper will not align with the Conflict Tradition (e.g., Critical Theory) or Integral or Fearlessness Movement per se, I will suggest that any systematic study of fear they are undertaking is (even if implicit, even if unconscious) a project motivated by the attempt to manage fear better. I have been making this claim since the beginning of my work. I have co-written about this with others, e.g., Subba, and no one to this point has challenged me on this claim, this assumption, this theory. To state it once more differently: *the interest to know more about fear is a pursuit involving assessment of fear knowledge, which is driven by the deeper motivation to manage one's own (or others') fear better*. That is a generalising theory about fear (management/education or FME). I believe because it is not being challenged (so far) by others, and I have continually found it to be accurate more than false or doubtful, that it is one of the fundamental principle assumptions behind General Fear Theory (GFT). It may turn out to be the most critical foundational principle(?).

Another basic in the GFT emerging is that *fear knowledge is currently inadequate, relative to the important (positive and negative) influences that fear has on human behaviour in all quarters of existence*. Another basic would be around the problematics of defining fear (making meaning of fear) and the complexity of doing so, etc.

The underlying assumption that provides a rationale for GFT (which is part of GFT itself) is that humans deserve a better theory (and theories) on fear than they have had historically and at present—because of an ever-increasing Fear Problem (i.e., in the context of Subba's Extreme Fear Age)—and, such a task of a GFT demands a transdisciplinary approach—that is, a generalizing theory of fear that includes but transcends all other theories of fear (e.g., psychology of fear, sociology of fear). The premise beneath this rationale is that overall, humanity is oppressed by fear ('fear') accumulated in history and it is time to be fully liberated from fear (i.e., its worst-side or pathological-side). Liberation is thus inherently required for any ethically sound GFT.

So, this is a minimalist approach above to show, perhaps how one would go about crafting a GFT. I have not thought enough about it myself. It ought to be a joint effort to construct this GFT, although many of us will want to work on it alone too—that's all fine. A GFT is not a panacea to the Fear Problem;

it is merely one more way to analyse and solve it. I, look forward to the day, in every school room in the world, when children and their parents can have good Fear Talks—and, that such talks can extend to the rest of society. What would a child do with the knowledge of a GFT right from the start of their interest to talk about fear, rather than merely learn about fear in the current haphazard kinds of ways? Humanity has recently, although reluctantly (due to fear itself) been exploring talking about sex, bringing in the curriculum on sex education—and, arguably it has improved the quality of learning and life for many people. Fear education would do the same thing. Thus, kudos to any initiatives, like Kalu's TFDs project and other Fear Talk approaches.

It ought to be clear that I am a 'believer' in theory (i.e., *theoria* = a *point of view* above the details of experience)—meaning, I believe in generalisations and generalising (i.e., theories, with praxis) as not only negative and with a bad-side. They also can have a good side. We have to make that distinction in our uses. Just because of misuses in history of generalisations, doesn't mean it is wise to flee generalisations in general! We have to all look at our contradictions in thinking and values, and beliefs, beyond fear, beyond walls of protection and ego-defences. That's the path of fearlessness ahead—that's the path to reality and truth—compassion and wisdom. It's a high calling for fearists and fearologists.

Summary

From the start of my research focus, with a transdisciplinary lens/approach, it was clear to me that most of all kinds of literature, across disciplines, tend to reduce the way to study fear. They tend to be driven by a focus on the concrete aspect of fear(s) and the pragmatic interventions of controlling, managing if not eliminating fears. I have looked for contradictions, taken a critical perspective on the formation of the knowledge of fear management/education and have done so by taking a "systems" perspective, tracing that approach back to the early 20th century and "general systems theory" and its role in ecology and environmental management. Now, Fear Studies has to take this on as a formation of systems thinking about fear and after that one can integrate both theory and actions. The whole point of GFT is to ensure we do not narrow our study of fear by convenience, reductionism, and piece-meal approaches.

A transdisciplinary study of fear demands we be systems theorists and thinkers. Of course, not everyone needs to be a scholar in this manner, and some will prefer more pragmatic applications of fear management and prefer simplified fear education processes and curriculum. However, as fearologists and fearists we do not have that luxury. The demand for the deepest and broadest thinking about fear is a demand brought on by the very complexification of the Fear Problem on this planet. The stakes are too high to think; otherwise, that is, to believe in less than a full systems way. GFT begins with naming that task.

Fears and Realities: Investigating Social Media Use for Sustainable Economic Development in Nigeria

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Abstract

The advent of social media technology initiated new approaches to economic development where stakeholders across business terrains are engaged in consensus building and implementation processes to survive in a highly competitive business environment. Today, everything has gone digital, and the traditional business approach is no longer enough to take the local product/services to a global level. The diffusion of social web globally has raised questions about whether these new technologies could be used more proactively to improve the economy of society for sustainability. Hinged on the Technological Acceptance Model and Technological Determinism, the study investigates how social media technology has impacted on the Nigerian business terrain for sustainable economic development and its militating factors. Personal in-depth interviews were conducted on some key business executives in Okota, Lagos and Emene, Enugu metropolis to investigate their perceptions of the extent, potentials and prospects of social media deployment for sustainable business development. Findings reveal that social media is making impacts in Nigerian businesses, though at a minimum rate due to issues of media literacy, phobia and access. The study recommends that private business owners and their employees be trained on the use of social media adoption for economic sustainability.

Keywords: Social Media, Economic Development, Sustainable Development, New Media Technology, Southern Nigeria

Introduction

Social media usage has been growing in popularity in Nigeria (Morah & Uzochukwu, 2019). Today, just about everyone depends on information and communication technology to keep their lives moving through daily activities like work, education, health care, leisure activities, entertainment, travelling, personal relationships, and the other life activities. This accounts for the use of Twitter, Facebook and YouTube in national movements for social change, such as in the variety of Occupy site and the Arab Spring. This development is consistent with the established position that the media helps to cause attitude change and, by so doing, ensures socioeconomic transformation (Schramm, 1964; Akinfeleye,

1995). Unlike the traditional media, social media can also be accessed on mobile phones, computers, tablets and laptops which facilitates the spread of information on networks. Willard (2009) argues that mobile communications and social media have gained much attention and research since they can be used to raise awareness of issues, improve monitoring of environmental and social realities, and even be used as tools for political actions.

Nigeria has a mostly young and vibrant population. About 32.4 per cent of the total population is below the age of 18 years amidst a total population of more than 140 million people (NPC 2006). The Nigerian National Youth Policy in Morah & Uzochukwu (2019) defines the youth as young people between 18 and 35 years that are Nigerian citizens. The population of youths (15 – 35years) in Nigeria was estimated to be 64.1 million (Morah & Uzochukwu, 2019). This implies that most Nigerians are young people who are likely to use social media in their everyday life.

Uche (1989) described Nigeria as a developing country with a reasonably well-established media industry. It had a virile press before the colonial advent and has, subsequently, established an electronic media that has a reasonable reach. Considering the role of communication in society, scholars have conceptualised information as the lifeblood of democracy (Jenkins, 2006; Jensen, 2010). This supports that information is also the lifeblood of media organisations as it is the most valuable commodity traded on the floor of media organisations. In this connection, therefore, social media can be a tool to further media's role in the economy as it stimulates social change and empowers the audience by changing information to knowledge which produces well-informed consumers who can participate in sustainable economic and national development. This shows that social media can be useful for developmental purposes and even compliment the mass media in national development. Social media can, therefore, garner opportunities that are apt for sustainable economic development.

Statement of Problem and Objectives

Social media has attracted much popularity than traditional media as shown in the high number of Nigerians presently using the internet. There are more than 21 million smartphone users with about 17 million smartphone users active on social media via their mobile phones in Nigeria in 2017 according to the recent Jumia Report (Morah & Uzochukwu, 2019). According to a recent report at internetworldstats.com Internet users as of June 30, 2015, were found to be 92,699,924 which equals

51.1% of the country's 2015 population given as 181,562,056 (Ekwenchi, Morah & Adum, 2015, p.2). Today, everything has gone digital and the traditional business approach is no longer enough to take the local product/services to a global level. It, therefore, became imperative to examine the potentials of the new innovative, creative and two-way communication means of reaching the international market to register economic product/services in consumers' minds using social media technology.

The emergence of the social web has also raised questions about whether new media technologies could be used more proactively to improve the economic sector of society for sustainability. A vacuum therefore exists, noticeable in the inability of many business enterprises in Lagos and Enugu states to adequately utilise social media technologies in their business management. Specifically, the study set out to profoundly investigate the usage profile of social media and determine if social media technology influences sustainable economic development in the two selected states.

The following research questions help to signpost the study: Are social networking sites driving the transformation of the two states business landscape towards achieving economic development? To what extent has the use of social media in business attracted foreign investors to the state? And if they are useful tools for sustainable economic development, how can we ensure that they live up to their potentials?

Theoretical Considerations

The Technological Determinism Theory formed a part of the theoretical basis for this study. Marshall McLuhan's (1962) Technological Determinism theory states that media technology shapes how we as individuals in a society think, feel, act, and how our society operates as we move from one technological age to another. In essence, we learn and feel and think the way we do because of the messages we receive through the current technology (the social media) that is available to us now. Just as the radio required us only to listen and develop our sense of hearing and television engages both our hearing and visual senses; social media has arrived to introduce interactivity and participation in the communication process. We then transfer those developed senses into our everyday lives and use them again and again. The theory further suggests that when new systems of technology are developed, the culture or society will immediately change to reflect the senses needed to use the new

technology. It further predicts that with every new system of media technology, society will change and adapt to that technology. This implies that Nigerian entrepreneurs are bound to improve their marketing and communication thinking to reflect the technology of the time which is social media. The proper harnessing of the potentials of social media technology will definitely ensure sustainable economic development.

The Technological Acceptance Model (TAM) proposed initially by Fred Davis in 1986 which explains how users come to accept and use technology is also apt to the study. The model suggests that whenever users are presented with new technology, several factors tend to affect their decision about how and when they will use it. Davis (Chuttur 2009) indicates that users' motivation can be explained by three factors: perceived usefulness; perceived ease of use and attitude toward using the system. He argues that the attitude of a user towards a system is a significant determinant of whether the user will use or reject the system. In this context, TAM transposes to how business people in Lagos and Enugu states utilise social media in managing businesses as a result of the perceived ease of use and perceived usefulness of social media and as generally accepted the communication and media platforms.

Media for Sustainable Development

Wilson (2005) provided a different perspective of what constitutes development. Inayatullah (in Wilson, 2005) asserts that development is a change towards patterns of society that allow better realisation of human patterns of society greater control over its environment and over its political destiny, which enable its individuals to gain increased control over themselves (p.124). Rogers (Wilson, 2005) regarded development as an extensive participatory process of social change in a society, which has intended to bring about social and material advancement (including greater equality, freedom and other valued qualities) for the majority of the people as they gain greater control over their environment (p.125). Wilson also, corroborates Ekong to point out that development is for and about people and not about things. He believes the people for whom development is intended for the need to be made aware of their needs and as well participate in the process through a converted mass mobilisation. (p.126). The primary rationale of national development is human development, the purpose of which is to enlarge people's choices for: "...greater access to knowledge; better nutrition and health services; more

secure livelihoods; security against crime and physical violence; political and cultural freedoms; and a sense of participation in community activities..." (UNDP Human Development Reports, 2002),

National developments, on the other hand, are changes or advancement in a nation aimed at improving the political, health, economic and social lives of the people. Communication is one means of achieving national development as information is generally regarded as power. More specifically, the media has grown historically to perform important developmental roles as the fourth estate, agenda setter, watchdog, force multiplier, and gate-keeper, as they influence society. Media activities should, therefore, facilitate social change and national development as "what the media do or do not do has mattered to societies, and this has been reflected in complex systems of ideas about what they should or should not be doing" (McQuail, 2010,p.218). Along with this mindset, Pavlik & McIntosh (2013) appreciates the place of social media communication in development, arguing that the public or audience may finally have some say in the new digital media environment;

Through communication tools that give the unprecedented public power to share information and to 'talk back' to those in power, people can connect and organise on any number of issues that are important to them, affecting policy changes through online and offline means (McQuail, 2010, p.31).

The influence of the media in national development always depends on three factors: the media, the societies in which they operate, as well as the audience they reach. McQuail (2010) asserts that the activities of media institutions are inextricably both economic and political and somehow greatly dependent on changing technologies. The public character of the media does not derive "mainly from the political function of the media in a democracy, but also from the fact that information, culture and ideas are considered as the collective property of all" (p.218). Hence, considering the potentials of new media, social media should serve as a robust way to enable Nigerian entrepreneurs to accelerate economic developmental goals in society.

Golding (1974) regards prevailing development conceptions as ethnocentric and ahistorical. For Golding, ethnocentric is the pathways of Northern countries which has legitimate and viable ways to the development and implies that the South should imitate the North. His ahistorical critique can either pertain to the view that development can only come from the outside owing to the static isolation of

developing countries or to the act of conceiving the future as a bigger version of the present (p. 52). If this mindset is taken, social media, a new technology from western nations should be used to develop Nigeria, an African country. Golding, however, regarded such views as tantamount to seeing developing countries as "embryonic microcosms of western capitalism" (p. 52). The author rather reiterates communication scholars to focus on the role of international news and media organisation and the relationship between traditional news patterns and the new media if they are genuinely interested in investigating the role of media in national development. This equally demonstrates the importance of interactive communication in human development.

Generally, there are four fundamental principles which are crucial for development—accountability, transparency, participation, and inclusion. Development is therefore perceived as a qualitative change, which entails changes in the structure of the economy, health, social environment, and political disposition. The targets of national development are mostly the people; as such efforts are focused on the human population. The media has always remained at the centre of every development plan as the fulcrum on which the society revolves and social media is no exception. Since social media has been widely accepted as a medium of interactive and participatory communication across the globe (Jenkins, 2006; Duru & Morah, 2017), it can be regarded as the fulcrum on which the society now revolves. From this discourse, it is clear that social media with its unique potentials is deemed essential for sustainable economic development especially in Nigeria.

Social Media for Sustainable Economic Development in Nigeria

Research (Morah & Duru, 2017; Morah & Okenwa, 2013; Morah & Uzochukwu, 2019) has shown that social media has great potentials of helping various businesses to grow; penetrates every sphere of life and has proven to be an effective communication tool for sustainable development. Morah and Uzochukwu (2019) adopted the survey research method to investigate how young people in the rural communities of Anambra, Enugu and Ogun states were politically activated to participate in the April 2015 presidential elections on the instrumentality of social media connected via mobile devices. They found out that the most popular social media respondents' access with mobile devices was Facebook which ranked highest with a percentage of 63.6% and followed by Whatsapp with a percentage of

18.1%. "Other social media ...indicate that 2.5% use 2go, 3.3% use Twitter, 4.2% use blogs, 2.9% use BBM while 5.4% use Instagram"(p.13).

In Oke (2013) study on the Effect of Social Network on women Entrepreneurs in Nigeria: A case study of Ado- Ekiti Small Scale Enterprise, it was discovered that there is a significant relationship between social networks and business growth of an entrepreneur (p.8). The author insists that social networks are essential factors influencing entrepreneurial behaviour (p.2). Likewise, in Morah & Omojola (2018), it was found that SMEs mostly use Whatsapp and Facebook in selected states in Southern, Nigeria to advertise the business and interact with customers. It is therefore imperative to find out how social media could be adequately deployed for sustainable economic development.

The Nigerian political sphere has even witnessed a significant transformation with the advent of mobile and social media (Morah&Uzochukwu, 2019). Political aspirants can reach prospective voters through phone calls, mobile text messages, social media texts and online post and updates. Research from Pew's Project for Excellence in Journalism suggests that people are increasingly accessing news through mobile social media (Mitchell, Rosenstiel &Christian, 2012) cited in (Humphreys 2013). The use of social media for political communication has economic implications as the cost of sharing this information via traditional media will be reduced. Even at that, Donner & Gitau (2009) in Humpherys (2013) surmise that in places like South Africa, it's cheaper to send a message via mobile social media, like MXit, than it is to send an SMS. Mobile social media is even more forceful according to Humphreys (2013) as the means of media production, distribution, and consumption is on the same device. With the help of social, mobile media, photos or video can also be taken with phones and circulated to so many people in the same mobile environment. Through mobile social media like Facebook, Whatsapp, LinkedIn, Twitter, or YouTube, it can spread faster than just texting a message to contacts. Social media can thus easily help in spreading economic and marketing communication messages due to its potentials and ubiquitous nature.

Social media also plays a vital role in the process of identifying the needs and preferences of consumers. It provides a series of tools through which producers can analyse market needs and

determine customer expectations; and even discover some products and services they offer which meet their client's expectations (Onete, Dina &Vlad,2013, p.660). The authors argue that social media and the internet allow the collection of complete information even before the purchase of a certain product or service. It is clear that consumer read up existing knowledge about the product or service he is about to purchase. The consumers can also compare prices of different sellers/distributors and evaluate the information obtained on social media with the information from traditional media or personal experience (Onete, Dina&Vlad, 2013, p.660).

Social media equally influences the consumers' behaviour; with regards to the rate of information flow which diffuses very fast which is usually generated by the consumer. In this case, the manufacturer will be unable to intervene too quickly in persuading the buyer, without identifying itself as such in the discussions regarding a particular product or service (Onete, Dina &Vlad, 2013, p.660). Therefore, social media platforms are apt for maintaining good relationships between consumers and manufacturer and include: social networks, specialised blogs, discussion forums, platforms that provide review and evaluation services or those that offer services to clients. The social media potentialities as discussed above justify the decision of the study to investigate the general state of the usefulness of social media in economic development in Southern Nigeria.

Method, Population, Sampling and Instrumentation

To identify the ways in which social media contribute to the development of sustainable business and to the way it is seen in southern Nigeria business environment, we conducted an explorative pilot research which included a personal in-depth interview with four key business executives in Okota, Lagos state and Emene, Enugu state who indulge in different businesses. The researchers decided to start with a pilot study to explore the objectives of the study in Emene and Okota areas before extending to the whole of southern Nigerian states. The selected sample consists of two male and two female business executives purposively selected from Lagos and Enugu states. The choices for the two areas were purposively made due to the high level of economic small scale entrepreneurial activities in those areas. Since the objective was on sustainability and use of social media, those interviewed were young entrepreneurs, who are familiar with the application of social media platforms and new media

technologies. The interview was guided with the use of an interview guide which principally centred on the three research objectives, and the findings are presented in an executive summary format.

Findings and Discussions

The study sought to investigate the extent of the use of social media in contributing to the economic development of Nigerian small scale businesses. Four respondents were interviewed in two purposively selected states in southern Nigeria, and the findings are presented in executive summaries against each research question.

RQ1- Are social networking sites driving the transformation of the Lagos and Enugu states business landscape towards achieving economic development?

The four business owners reacted differently to this first question: the first (R1) indicated that social media had helped his business to grow especially Facebook. She observes that "the traditional media is too expensive in terms of advertising, so, we are seriously using Facebook to reach and communicate with our customers". This shows that social media may thrive in Nigeria if properly harnessed and adopted in businesses.

The second (R2) business executive interviewed agreed with the first person but noted that it is more convenient chatting with social media than doing a transaction. For him "effective and real business has to do with physical contact, not online considering the nature of this country, you get what I mean...." This implies that some business enterprises lack trust in social media as an online marketing and business tool.

The third (R3) respondent agrees with R1 although she believes that there might be some fake identities online. She calls for caution in depending solely on social networks: "you can call for a physical meeting with a customer if in doubt. Above all, don't make any supply without payment confirmed first, don't!" This implies that some entrepreneurs might be afraid to use social media technology due to fear or lack of business trust.

R4, the four business executive interviewed believed that social media is the in -thing now. He disclosed that most people in business are shying away from using social media because they could not manipulate the new media environment. "Some are yet to understand common android phones usage or even how to use Whatsapp. I think they need enlightenment on the benefits of social media, and how to network in business" he emphasised. This clearly shows that media literacy is essential to social media use for sustainability.

RQ2- To what extent has the use of social media in business attracted foreign investors in Nigeria?

The four respondents agreed that social media could attract foreign investors if harnessed adequately for economic development. R1 and R4 maintained that Nigerian producers should do extensive advertisement of their local product using Facebook. R4 maintained Facebook has a broader scope and potential than other social networks even though, "one can use Whatsapp, Linkedin and Instagram to make business contacts". The other entrepreneurs R2 and R3 agree that family/friends groups and religious groups on Facebook have tremendously helped their businesses to grow. The entrepreneurs reported that family/friends increased their business as there is a wider connection which enhances business demands and scope. This result affirms previous research on social network such as ArentGreve and Salaff (2003) research on "social network and entrepreneurship" which found that a high proportion of family members are present in female networks.

QR3- As useful tools for sustainable economic development, how can we ensure that social media potentials are effectively utilised?

The four respondents reported that finance, social media literacy, infrastructural facilities (for example, electricity and road), media access, family issues, government policy serve as the hindrances to the use of social media for their business growth. R2 and R4 called for a reduction in data tariff to enable small scale traders to purchase data for online business connections. They strongly agreed that if there is proper sensitisation on the usefulness of social media as a business development tool, especially among youths in Nigeria, there will be sustainable economic growth. The respondents strongly believe social media help to reduce the cost of media advertising; that was not previously affordable to small

business owners. This shows that it is apparent, that perceived usefulness of and ease of use of social media make Nigerian business people strive to use it the more.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Social media were demonstrated to be a veritable tool for economic growth in the selected states. This confirms with existing literature (Morah & Omojola, 2018) and upholds the technological determinism theory. In this study, social media technology was found to be significant in determining the business models of entrepreneurs in Southern Nigeria. Social networks were also found to be sources of business assets; information; getting customers and suppliers which can ensure sustainable economic growth.

This study contributes to an evolving body of literature on the effect of the social network to business growth and success of entrepreneurship in Lagos and Enugu. The study, therefore, concludes that there is a strong positive relationship between the social network and business growth/success of an entrepreneur, especially business in the two selected states in southern Nigeria. The study further indicates that effective use of social media contributes to economic growth on social media when adequately harnessed.

The study recommends that private business owners and their employees be trained on the use of social adoption for economic sustainability. The cost of internet data should also be reduced, and WiFi made free in public places so that ordinary people in Nigeria can have access to the internet for their business expansions and connections. More research should be conducted using the survey method to find out empirically the extent of social media usage in businesses in southern and other regions of the country.

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Revisiting Growth Effects of Government Bonds in Nigerian Capital Market

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Abstract

This study revisited the effects of government bonds for the growth of the Nigerian capital market. Utilising time-series data obtained from the Nigeria Stock Exchange (NSE) annual reports for the period 2010 to 2017, this study through the Generalised Method of Moments (GMM) regression estimator found that the value and the number of listed government bonds' positively and significantly affect capital market growth in Nigeria. The low capitalisation of government bonds was found to negatively affect the growth of the market. The null hypothesis of the Hansen J statistics was accepted; implying that the IVs used in the GMM model is valid. We concluded that government bonds have positive and significant effects on the growth of the Nigerian capital market. Thus, government bonds have made the NSE All-Share Index grow over the period under investigation. The study thus, recommends among other things, that there should be more issuance of government bonds to the public and further to enhance the efficiency of the capital markets, both primary and secondary. The funds raised from the capital market through government issuance should also be channelled towards Nigeria's productive sectors to promote an all-inclusive growth in the Nigerian economy.

Keywords: Government Bonds; Bond Market; All-Share Index; Generalised Method of Moments; Nigeria.

Introduction

Globally, nations have achieved economic growth through their financial markets much easily by channelling funds from surplus economic units to the deficit units who are ready to use such funds for productive purposes. Khalid and Rajaguru (2018) corroborate that overall development of the financial sector has been achieved with the bond market being a key player, especially in emerging economies where the prospects of investment and savings are limited. The asseveration is that since banks and stock markets contribute significantly to economic growth, they can be substantially supported by the bond market, thus making the market a propellant of economic growth. Therefore, the bond market is

an essential feature of any well-developed financial market. The bond market remains an integral part of the capital market. Bond markets in Africa have experienced steady growth especially in recent years but remain relatively undeveloped (Mu, Phelps & Stotsky, 2013). The South African and Egyptian bond markets, however, are exemptions to the above statement (Adelegan & Radzewicz-Bak, 2009; Andrianaivo & Yartey, 2010; Grandes & Peter, 2013).

In both developed and developing nations, government bonds are the primary financial asset of the fixed-income security market (Nwiado & Deekor, 2013; World Bank & IMF, 2001). Governments' investment in the bond markets should form a haven for investors through their huge investments, thus, creating a room for zero or no risk investment (Cassimon, Essers & Verbeke, 2016). However, the markets for government bonds in many African countries are still developing, as most of them have market capitalisation which is relatively low compared to the advanced markets (Kapingura & Makhetha-Kosi, 2014; Mu *et al.*, 2013). This is the reason for the resilience of the domestic financial sector. Nations having a deep and vibrant capital market enjoys greater financial stability, financial development and economic growth (Peiris, 2010). A dynamic capital market which enjoys the benefits as mentioned earlier cannot be achieved without the development of the bond market.

It is needless to say that the Nigerian bond market lacks incentive for issuers hence low market participation, reduction in market liquidity (especially in terms of dollars), rigid market regulation, undiversified portfolios, insufficient funds by dealers to finance their investments, as well as the absence of a hedge instruments and markets all, affect the market. Also, the government has devoted little attention to creating an environment conducive for financial development to take place. The existence of multiple regulatory authorities for the market, lack of coordination, the presence of a hypertrophied banking system, and its dominating influence have slowed down the pace of growth of the bond market. Regulatory authorities such as the Securities and Exchange Commission, Central Bank of Nigeria, the NSE and Nigeria's Debt Management Office have not also been able to pull wires for the growth of the capital market to a reasonable extent. The fact remains that the weak state of the local bond market in Nigeria may hinder an investor's willingness to participate in the market.

Research efforts on the factors that determine bond market development is growing (Bhattacharyay, 2013; Smaoui, Grandes & Akindele, 2017; Teplova & Sokolova, 2017); however, studies examining how government bonds affect capital market growth in Nigeria is scarce (Eriki & Okafor, 2006; Kibet, 2015; Nwiado & Deekor, 2013). These scholars whose studies came close to tackling this topic did not take a holistic consideration of the effect of market capitalisation, the value of issued government instruments, and the number of listed Treasury bonds.

This study therefore, employs the variables mentioned above to investigate how government bonds affect the growth of the Nigerian capital market. The question to address then is: what is the individual effect of market capitalisation, the value of issued government instruments, and the number of listed Treasury bonds on the growth of the Nigerian capital market?

This study may have important implications for policymakers to foster innovation and growth of financial markets (especially the bond market) in an emerging economy like Nigeria. It provides insights to policymakers, stakeholders, and government regulators on the areas where more resources and energies should be directed to develop the Nigeria capital market through the issuance of government securities. It will also assist several players in projecting the performance of government instruments in the market.

An overview of the current situation of the government bond market in Nigeria

This section presents the current status of the Nigerian government securities market vis-a-vis its development compared to other advanced markets. It subsequently analysed the recent evolution of the bond market. The government bond market has a primary market for bonds. Its dealers are government selected financial intermediaries whose aim is to promote investment in government bonds and participation in the government securities market (World Bank & IMF, 2001). The market capitalisation of the government bond market in Nigeria is low, thus a need to invest substantially in the financial markets in the Nigerian economy; unlike its other emerging market counterparts especially the Asian and Latin emerging markets, the local bond market in Nigeria is far below in terms of market performance. The aforementioned is as a result of the low market liquidity, lack of diversification, shallowness, the inexistence of institutional investors, lack of proper infrastructure, low capitalisation,

few listed companies, and instruments in the Nigerian bond market relative to those of other emerging bond markets in Asia or Latin America. This view was also corroborated by Cassimon, Essers, and Verbeke (2015) who noted the difficulty of local currency bond markets (LCBMs) to grow its investment size and necessary financial market infrastructure. Besides, there is an inadequate regulatory framework for the operations of the market.

The Nigeria bond market is relatively shallow, inefficient and illiquid, thus, preventing companies from raising funds needed to expand investment in physical and human capital among other goals (Smaoui, Grandes & Akindede, 2017). They added that African bond markets except for South Africa hardly reach their 15-18% of their GDP investment in government securities. This accounts for about 80-90% of the market capitalisation rate in all markets. The underdeveloped nature of the Nigerian financial system relative to those of the developed countries coupled with the high level of inflation in the system is plausible reasons for the low volume of outstanding government bonds in the country. Thus, Claessens, Klingebiel, and Schmukler (2007) demonstrated that in “big” economies like the United States having its financial system well-managed and inflation level well-curtailed, there abounds huge volume of outstanding government bonds to explore. The presence of a weak institutional framework and macroeconomic mismanagement inhibit the development of the government bond market in Nigeria.

The presence of a well-developed local currency bond market is capable of enhancing the resilience of the domestic financial sector to external shocks while also improving fund mobilisation and intermediation of domestic savings into productive uses in an economy (Bhattacharyay, 2011; Bhattacharyay, 2013). Needless to say, that when domestic bond markets are well-developed, they help to support domestic savings mobilisation and intermediation and boost financial development. Thus, it tends to improve monetary policy transmission (Abbas & Christensen, 2010; IMF *et al.*, 2013; Kumhof & Tanner, 2005; World Bank & IMF, 2001).

Domestic Government Securities Market Development Strategies

The development of the government securities market cannot be achieved without making a record achievement in the financial and market system of a nations’ economy. For many governments, the problems that inhibit the development of the government securities market run deep in their economy

because of the many challenges in the financial system. For example, competition becomes scarce while transaction costs move upward when governments rely on a few domestic banks for funding (World Bank & IMF, 2001).

The development of a domestic debt market involves in part, proper domestic public debt management including the issuance of the central government securities as well as the involvement of the private sector in issuance and trading of corporate instruments. Public debt consists of all outstanding financial liabilities of the state from the previous borrowing including guaranteed debts to state agencies and municipalities (Bhattacharyay, 2011). Governments that have succeeded in market development have not only strategically managed their public debt which majorly comprises of government securities but also promoted reforms for better market institutional and structural frameworks.

Countries are to implement initiatives to develop their domestic bond markets, with these corporate issuers take a cue by floating bonds in the capital markets and reducing reliance on bank financing (Thotho, 2014). There is a growing need for corporate institutions to finance their infrastructure development from fixed rate debt with long term horizon which is available from the capital markets (The World Bank, 1995). A well-developed domestic bond markets exist in countries that have been able to reduce the stock of short term securities in the debt portfolio, and can also stimulate a broader investor base to increase competition coupled with the optimisation of the price for government paper, and an improvement in the regulatory and operating environment for efficient functioning of the market. The ability of the government debt management to consider the preferences of investors and to promote the development of appropriate instruments, trading infrastructure and distribution channels for government securities is an excellent strategy to developing the domestic bond markets (World Bank & IMF, 2001).

The IMF and World Bank initiated a program to assist, *among other things*, SSA countries in growing the bond market to ensure the goal of maintaining debt sustainability by developing feasible medium-term debt management strategies. Thus, the question to ascertain is the feasibility of achieving the desired goal of bond market development through the IMF and World Bank joint program initiative

(Adelegan & Radzewicz-Bak, 2009). Furthermore, developing LCMBs can be achieved in low-income nations by expanding and enhancing longer-maturity marketable components of such nations' domestic debt.

Empirical Review

Using social, economic and institutional factors, Khalid and Rajaguru (2018) investigated the determinants of the size of the domestic bond market for a sample of 47 countries over the period 1998-2013. Applying the Generalised Method of Moments (GMM) and Two-Stage Least Squares (2SLS) estimators, the results indicated that the size of the economy, banking system breadth and depth, monetary policy stance, degree of market openness, level of corruption, degree of civil liberty, and market accessibility to investors all play a significant role in determining the size of the domestic bond market. Kibet (2015) examined the effect of government bonds on capital market growth in Kenya over the period 2004-2014. Using regression analysis, the study found that the issuance of government bonds and the level of capital market growth are positively correlated. Also, it concluded that the supply-leading hypothesis (SLH) of capital market growth prevailed in Kenya for the period under review.

Msangi (2015) scrutinised the determining factors of capital market development in Tanzania, with a particular focus on the Dar Es Salaam Stock Exchange over the period 1998-2012. The regression results revealed that the critical determinants of the capital market include investment, foreign direct investment, and banking sector development. Besides, the study could not find a relationship between stock market liquidity and capital market development. Adetiloye, Babajide, and Ugwu (2015) researched the constraints to the growth of capital markets in African economies, using Nigeria as a focal point. Employing the multiple regression techniques, the results revealed that poor organisation of the market, high transaction cost, lack of various securities, and instability in governmental policies served as constraints to the growth of capital markets.

Focusing on South Africa, Kapingura and Makhetha (2014) examined the causal relationships which exist between bond market development and economic growth in Africa over the period 1995-2012. Adopting the Engle-Granger co-integration and the pairwise Granger causality tests, the results showed a relationship between bond market capitalisation and economic activity. Furthermore, it revealed that

African governments should emphasise policies which would ensure the development of the bond market as a way to mobilise domestic resources for bond market investment which would, in the long run, promote economic growth. Nwiado and Deekor (2013) examined in the ways foreign participation and the growth of the domestic bond market in same market function to impact the growth and development of the Nigeria capital market. Through the Vector Autoregressive (VAR) model, the study found that the participation of expatriates in the domestic bond market adds nothing or rather minimally to liquidity in the Nigeria local bond market, while the national yield curve is also not affected, thus, violating what existing theories have established.

Andriannaivo and Yaryet (2010) studied the growth of the African financial market. Using a Dynamic Panel estimator, the study's finding indicates that the protection of creditor rights, level of income, political risk, and financial repression are main determinants of banking sector development in Africa while main determinants of stock market development include domestic savings, banking sector development, political risk, and stock market liquidity. Furthermore, it showed that the liberalisation of the capital account promotes the development of the financial market only in nations with well-developed institutions or the high-income countries, or both. Applying Ordinary Least Square regression (OLS) estimation technique, Eriki and Okafor (2008) examined the impact of government bonds on growth and development of the Nigerian capital market between 1970 and 2003. The results revealed that the current prospect's level and benefits of the Nigerian capital market can be improved upon to attain yet greater height.

Considering a panel dataset of emerging and developed nations, Claessens *et al.* (2007) investigated the determinants of domestic government bond markets' and their currency composition. It showed the size of the economy as one factor which can enhance the development of a bond market. El-Wassal (2005) investigated stock markets' growth relationship with financial liberalisation policies, economic growth, country risk factors, and foreign portfolio investment in 40 emerging markets over the 1980-2000 periods. Employing TSLS and the Fixed Effect (FE) techniques, its findings suggested that foreign portfolio investments, financial liberalisation policies, and economic growth were prominent factors influencing stock market growth.

Methodology: Model Specification

This study builds an empirical model to inspect the effect of government bonds on Nigerian capital market growth. Hence, the functional relationship is given as follows:

$$ALSI = f (MCGS, VLGS, NLGS) \quad (1)$$

Equation 1 could be expressed mathematically as:

$$ALSI_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 MCGS_t + \beta_2 VLGS_t + \beta_3 NLGS_t + \mu_t \quad (2)$$

Importantly, equation two is transformed into an exponential model by applying logarithm in the model. The natural logarithms of all the variables are used in the econometric analysis against using absolute values to avoid spurious results.

The exponential model is specified as thus:

$$ALSI_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \ln MCGS_t + \beta_2 \ln VLGS_t + \beta_3 \ln NLGS_t + \mu_t \quad (3)$$

ALSI represents the All-Share Index, which is a measure of the growth and performance of the capital market. MCGS is the market capitalisation of government bonds (aggregate value of tradable government bonds, it measures the size of government bond market); VLGS is the traded value (sum of respective matching prices multiplied by the total of the bonds traded); NLGS is the total listed bonds on the Nigerian capital market. All the data were log-transformed because they are positive figures; this was done to bring the data to the same base, hence making results interpretation easy. This study hypothesised that market capitalisation of bonds, the value of traded bonds, and the total number listed bonds significantly affect the growth of the capital market.

Where; β_0 is the intercept and β_1 to β_3 are the coefficients, \ln is natural logarithm while μ is the error term.

Data Collection

Time-series data was adopted for this study. The secondary data on the market capitalisation, value and numbers of listed government bonds together with All-Share Index (which measures capital market growth) was obtained from reports of NSE market outlook published over the period from 2010. However, this study made some back-of-the-envelope calculations to arrive at the required figures such

as the value of bonds traded. The data for all the variables in the study were collected over the period 2010-2017, eight years period.

Method of Data Analysis

The Generalised Method of Moments (GMM) regression technique was used for the data analysis. This technique uses instrumental variables to assuage the challenges of simultaneity bias and potential endogeneity. This study employed the GMM estimation technique to explain the relationship which exists between the independent variables and dependent variable. The instruments/instrument variables (IVs) allow better estimation of parameters because some explanatory variables are conceptually endogenous such as the NSE All-Share Index, among others. The validity of the IVs is tested through the use of Hansen J-statistic. The null hypothesis for the Hansen J-statistic is that over-identification restrictions are valid. The acceptance of the null hypothesis implies that the IVs are valid. IVs are variables that are correlated with the explanatory variables but not correlated with the error term. Conversely, it is imperative to note that the number of IVs to use must not be less than the number of regressors (explanatory variables) in the model.

Estimation Results: Presentation of GMM results

Table 1 presents the model results’ estimated with the Generalised Method of Moments (GMM) estimator. This result indicates the linear relationship that exists between the dependent variable and each of the independent variable.

Table 1. Results of the generalised method of moments (GMM)

Dependent variable: All-Share Index (ALSI)

| Explanatory variable | Coefficient | t-statistic | p-value |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| lnMCGD | -0.583596 | -2.641403 | 0.0776*** |
| lnVLGD | 0.491379 | 2.472403 | 0.0899*** |
| lnNLGD | 1.834152 | 1.634184 | 0.0407** |
| Intercept | 7.023000 | 5.045814 | 0.0150** |

$R^2 = 0.62039$ J-statistic (p-value) = 0.05549 (0.8137) Instrument rank = 5 D*W stat.= 1.830

Note: ** and *** signifies the rejection of null hypothesis of statistical significance of series at 5% and 10% significance level respectively.

The GMM estimator result in Table 1 reveals contrary to *a priori* expectation that the coefficient of the market capitalisation of government bonds is negatively signed. The negative coefficient value of 0.583596 implies that a ₦1 trillion increase in the market capitalisation of government bonds will *circa* decrease the NSE All-Share Index by ₦0.58 trillion. This study does not reject the hypothesis that the market capitalisation of government bonds significantly affects the growth of the Nigerian capital market.

The coefficient of the value of listed government bonds is positively signed; the value of the coefficient is obtained as 0.491379. This conforms to *a priori* expectation of a positive relationship between the value of listed government bonds and NSE All-share index, which is a measure of the performance of the capital market. In terms of magnitude, this suggests that a ₦1 trillion increase in listed government bonds value will spur the NSE All-Share Index by *circa* ₦0.49 trillion. This study upholds the hypothesis that the value of listed government bonds significantly affects the growth of the Nigerian capital market.

The number of listed government bonds has a positive coefficient of 1.834152, which also conforms to *a priori* expectation. This result indicates that a ₦1 trillion increase in the number of listed government will increase the NSE All-share index *circa* by ₦1.83 trillion. The hypothesis that the number of listed government bonds significantly affects the growth of the Nigerian capital market cannot be rejected.

Based on the *p*-value that accompanies each of the regressors in the model for this study, all three regressors are statistically significant but at varying levels. The market capitalisation of government bonds (MCGD) is statistically significant at 10 per cent with 0.0776 as its *p*-value, thus lesser than the 10 per cent threshold level. The value of listed government bonds is also statistically significant at 10 per cent, as revealed by the *p*-value of 0.0899. Therefore, this regressor is vital in determining the behaviour of NSE All-share index. The number of listed government bonds is however statistically significant at 5 per cent, as shown by the *p*-value of 0.0407, which is lesser than 5 per cent significance level.

The coefficient of multiple determination denoted as R^2 with a value of $0.6203 \approx 0.62$ shows that 62 per cent of the total variation in NSE All-share index. All the independent variables of MCGD, VLGD, and NLGD can explain the behaviour of NSE All-share index up to 62 per cent, while the remaining 38 per cent is accounted for by the stochastic term which is present in the model, and these are factors not specified in the model. In other words, the remaining 38% is attributed to the presence of white noise or disturbance in the model. This was confirmed by the coefficient of the Adjusted R^2 , which gave a value of 0.2408 implying that after all necessary adjustments the explanatory variables account for the 24.08% variation in the explained variable (NSE All-share index), while the remaining 75.92% can be attributed to the unexplained variable or the error term.

The Hansen J-statistic is 0.055489 with a corresponding p -value of greater than 0.1. Thus, this study fails to reject the null hypothesis of valid over-identifying restrictions for the instruments at 10 per cent level of significance, thus giving the study the confidence that the five instrumental variables used are valid, not over-identified and lead to consistent estimates. We document the absence of first-order serial correlation of residuals in the model as reported by the Durbin Watson (DW) statistics which is close to 2.

Discussion of Findings

This study intends to determine the effect of government bonds on capital market growth in Nigeria over the period 2010-2017. The GMM estimator as shown in the analytical results revealed that all the explanatory variables but one (market capitalisation of government bonds, MCGD) are accustomed to *a priori* expectation as their respective coefficients show a positive relationship with the NSE All-Share Index in the case of the value of listed government bonds (VLGD), and number of listed government bonds (NLGD). While the parameter of MCGD shows a negative or inverse relationship with the NSE All-Share Index.

The findings showed that the market capitalisation of government bonds (MCGD) is statistically significant in the regression equation, with a p -value not greater than 0.0776. The coefficient of MCGD does have a negative effect on the NSE All-share index. This result which does not match with the findings of Kibet (2015) where a positive association exist between market capitalisation of government

bonds and capital market growth, however, confirms with Eriki and Okafor (2008) and Nwiado and Deekor (2013) studies. The value of listed government bonds (VLGD) showed a positive and significant effect for the NSE All-Share Index. This result also varies from that of Kibet (2015), but consistent with the work of Nwiado and Deekor (2013). The number of listed government bonds (NLGD) had a positive and also significant effect on the NSE All-Share Index. This result is consistent with the studies of Eriki and Okafor (2008) and Kibet (2015).

The coefficient of multiple determination otherwise known as R^2 which was put to 62.02 per cent shows that the government bonds affect the growth of the Nigerian capital market, measured with the NSE All-Share Index. This can be justified with the total variation of the NSE All-Share Index which we can say is attributed to or accountable for by all the explanatory variables (MCGD, VLGD, and NLGD) while the remaining 37.98 per cent can be attributed to the error of the observations, i.e. the stochastic variable. This is further proven by the coefficient of the Adjusted R^2 , which gave a value of 0.2408. This implies that after necessary adjustments the explanatory variables account for the 24.1 per cent variation in the explained variable (NSE All-Share Index), while the remaining 75.9 per cent can be attributed to the unexplained variable or the error term.

The probability value (p -value) test revealed that all the independent variables were statistically significant in explaining the behaviour of the dependent variable (NSE All-Share Index). This was confirmed by their respective probability values lesser than 5 per cent (in the case of NLGD) and 10 per cent for MCGD and VLGD. There is the absence of the first-order autocorrelation in the model employed for this study, which also indicates that errors in the estimated values of NLGD, MCGD, and VLGD were serially uncorrelated with one another.

Conclusion and Recommendations

This study examined the effect of government bonds on capital market growth in Nigeria for the 2010-2017 periods. The main finding which appears from this study indicated that government bonds and NSE All-Share Index are positively related, and such a relationship is a significant and robust effect. One of the most critical findings in this study is that the number of listed government bonds is a significant determinant of capital market growth in Nigeria.

In the light of the significant findings in the study, we recommend that: First, policymakers in Nigeria should encourage the issuance of more government bonds to the public and further to enhance the efficiency of the capital markets, both primary and secondary. This will in no doubt lead to the mobilisation of more funds and have a positive effect on capital market growth. Second, this study reveals that bond market really motivates capital market growth in Nigeria, hence it is essential that all stakeholders in the private- and public sectors coupled with investors, should engage and promote activities that will enhance the bond market development. Thus, efficient markets through the availability of information to the public should be a priority.

Third, the capital market can be made viable to attract the investment of small and individual investors by improving its market illiquidity status; this improvement will, in the long-run, promote economic growth. Fourth, funds generated from investments in government securities should be channelled into productive use in viable economic sectors capable of good yield, thus, stimulating growth in all economic facets and also encourage investors who may be hesitant to invest without visible results.

Fifth, the government should issue bonds in lower denominations to encourage the uptake by individual and small investors in volumes suitable to them. This will rally volumes due to massive uptake which can contribute to capital market growth. Lastly, the private sector investments and participation in the capital market should be encouraged through public enlightenment and education which would promote public participation in capital market activities. Experts and professionals in stock market dealings can help the private investors achieve this goal of public enlightenment.

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Information and Health Implications of Health Worker's Migration on Nigeria's Medical Practice

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Absrtact

The wave of migration across Africa has continued to raise scholarly discourse. It has equally affected the economic development of most African countries especially Nigeria. Although previous studies on immigration focused on migration driven by the search for greener pasture, recent cases of migration of health workers from Nigeria to other countries raises serious health concerns. The study adopted a content-analysis of select three documents on the migration of health workers in Nigeria viz: Nigeria HealthWatch,; Migration in Nigeria: Thematic Document on Migration and Development in Nigeria,; and Migration in Nigeria: A Country Profile. The study found inaccessible health information as a problem of migration of health workers on medical practice in Nigeria. The study recommended a mainstreaming of migration into development policies through health information-seeking approach.

Keywords: Communication, migration, health information, health.

Introduction

The last decade has witnessed unprecedented migrations across the world. Migration is a change of residence by an individual over a long period usually in search of improved conditions of living, labour, natural disasters or other reasons. What distinguishes migration from other forms of change of residence is that migration aims at making a permanent settlement in a new location (Encarta, 2009). It, therefore, means that people migrate to another place in search of food, labour, safety from life-threatening disasters or other reasons. Citing a European Union policy, Funk, Namara, Pardo and Rose (2017) state that the concept of 'root causes' of irregular migration can be said to encompass a wide range of causalities such as poverty, human rights violations, conflicts, political instability, food security and lack of access to natural resources. It has two forms: emigration and immigration. Immigration is the inward movement into a country and emigration is the outward movement to another country. By whatever causes of migration, it hinges on the notion that there is a decline in socioeconomic

development and workforce of the country of emigration to another country. To this end, this study narrowed its scope to the nature of migration of Nigerian health workers to other countries (emigration) and implications of such migration curve on Nigeria medical practice vis-à-vis health information.

Nigeria's health sector has witnessed unabated migration of medical health workers from Nigeria to other countries in search of greener pastures and better working conditions. The World Health Organisation recently alerted Nigeria to the increasing migration of health workers outside the country and stressed the attendant effects on the country's health sector (Daily Sun, 2016). Operationally, health workers include doctors, nurses and other health workers other than laboratory technicians. The effect of migration of these health workers is the resultant brain drain syndrome that has characterised medical practice in Africa. Adesulu (2016) explains 'brain drain' as an abnormal form of scientific exchange in which one country exchanges with another country without an equivalent degree of exchange. This is a negative aspect of unchecked migration of medical workers from one country (especially from developing countries) to another (usually the developed countries).

The essence of health information is to examine the information flow vis-à-vis migration trends. There is a need for adequate information on the movement of people and goods within and across international boundaries. It is not enough for migration to take place; there is a need for appropriate information on the direction and pace of migration. The crux of this study simply looked at migration trends in the Nigerian health sector by measuring the prominence given to health information. The study focused on investigating the nature and pattern of information flow in migration trends in the Nigerian health sector.

Statement of Problem

Migration has far-reaching implications for Nigeria's national development plan in the health sector. A disproportionate concentration of health workers in a country creates recognisable gaps in medical practice in a country. In Nigeria, there is an unabated increase in the migration of Nigerian health workers which has resulted in an acute shortage of competent healthcare providers. More unfortunate is the fact that there is a relative shortfall on the availability of information on migration trends of affected health workers. In areas where data is available, it is either based on individual speculations on several

affected medical workers or information lacks authenticity. There is also a problem of lack of official documents that chronicle the migration figures of health workers in Nigeria. This lack of adequate documentation has affected the proper monitoring of the rate of migration of Nigerian health workers. Some previous studies are based on the positions of practising health workers instead of government accredited health ministry. The inaccessibility to accurate information on the migration trend in the health sector has crippled valid and reliable inferences from previous studies. To this end, this study adopted an information-seeking approach by examining the nature and pattern of health information in reporting cases of migration of health workers in Nigerian health sector.

Objectives of Study

The general objective is to examine the place of health information on migration of health workers on Nigeria medical practice. The specific objectives include:

- a. To investigate the pattern of migration vis-à-vis health information on migration of Nigerian health workers.
- b. To examine prominence of health information on migration of Nigeria health workers.
- c. To evaluate modes of health information on migration of Nigerian health workers.

Research Questions

The following research questions guided the study:

- a. What is the pattern of migration vis-à-vis health information on migration of Nigeria health workers?
- b. What is the prominence of health information on migration of Nigerian health workers?
- c. What are modes of health information on migration of Nigerian health workers in Nigeria?

Migration: An Overview

The concept of migration is key to understanding the implication of movement of people and goods from one place to another. It is the permanent change of residence by an individual or group (Encyclopedia Britannica, 2015). The pattern of migration varies among different societies. There is a rural-urban migration which is a movement of people from one rural area to urban area. This pattern of migration takes place within a country. A significant implication is an increase in urbanisation which is characterised by population explosion, inadequate infrastructure and competition.

On the other hand, another pattern of migration involves the movement of people beyond the territorial boundaries of a country. This is characterised by a quest for better living conditions, labour or as refugees. Encyclopedia Britannica (2015) identifies two migration trends: First, internal and international migration may be distinguished. Within any country, there are movements of individuals and families from one area to another (for example, from rural areas to the cities), and this is distinct from movements from one country to another. Second, migration may be voluntary or forced. Most voluntary migration, whether internal or external, is undertaken in search of better economic opportunities or housing. Forced migrations usually involve people who have been expelled by governments during war or other political upheavals or who have been forcibly transported as slaves or prisoners. Intermediate between these two categories are the voluntary migrations of refugees fleeing war, terrorism, or natural disasters.

Migration of Health Workers: Nigeria's Experience

A healthy citizenry is the greatest asset of a nation. This supports the maxim that health is power. Moullan (2014) agrees that one of the essential resources in a health system is the human capital that constitutes it. A decline in numeric strength of health workers in a country exerts tremendous effects on both the healthcare provision and workforce in the country's health sector. In the case of Nigeria, studies show worrisome trends in migration graphs of health workers from Nigeria to other countries. Adesulu (2016) observes that 227 doctors migrated from Nigeria in 12 months; another set of 35,000 doctors left Nigeria for the United Kingdom and United State (Obinna, 2017). This is a worrisome development for Nigeria. It points to a dangerous trend in the health sector as a UK-based Nigerian doctor, Dr Harvey Olufenmilayo alerted the country of about 1,000 Nigerian doctors that passed the Professional and Linguistic Assessment Board (Plab 1) medical examination in March 2018 to enable them to practice in the UK. Based on doctor-to-patient statistics in Nigeria, the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN) stated that there were 4000 patients to one doctor in Nigeria, describing the trend as unacceptable (Lawal, 2018). This implies that Nigeria's health sector is disproportionate in terms of the doctor-to-patient index. This trend portends danger in the Nigerian health sector when there is still unabated migration of available health workers.

The implication of Migration of Health Workers on Nigeria

Migration is a change agent as it adds to socioeconomic strengths of a country to the disadvantage of another country. Little records exist on account of immigration of health workers into Nigeria. The emphasis of the study is the emigration trend which involves the outward movement from one country to another. Positive implications of migration of health workers include:

- a. It boosts the economy of the country of immigration.
- b. It increases technical know-how of country of migration through inter flux of ideas between immigrants and citizens.
- c. It boosts a practitioner's self-esteem as he or she finds his sojourn in foreign lands as a symbol of status.

Negative implications of migration of health workers include:

- a. It weakens the strength of medical practice and workforce in a country.
- b. It leads to an acute shortage of competent healthcare providers in a country.
- c. It perpetuates the problem of brain drain syndrome, leading to an increase of loss of Nigerian health professionals to other nations.

Understanding the 'Brain Drain' Syndrome

In medical parlance, brain drain syndrome is described as the international transfer of knowledge and resources in the form of human capital and applies to the migration of academics, skilled professionals, technical human resources and experts from developing to developed countries (Adesulu, 2016). It is a shift of labour from developing nations to developed nations in the form of a shift in the utilisation of expertise in another country. It is characterised by one-way flow in labour distribution either by enticement, coercion, payment or willingness to join the workforce of a foreign country. Lofters (2012) identifies 'brain drain' as one major cause of the shortage of health workers from developing to developed nations. Causes of brain drain among health workers include poor working conditions in poorer countries and active recruitment by more affluent countries. Other causes include inaccessibility to modern health technology in developing countries, poor health policies and adventurous expeditions by some health workers that used health practice as decoys to migrate to foreign countries.

However, brain drain syndrome takes two forms: (1) Direct migration from a country to another for medical practice and (2) Consistent refusal drain of foreign-trained health workers to return to their

home-country after training. Relating this brain drain trend in Nigeria health sector, Lofters (2012), Adesulu (2016) and Uchenunu-Ibeh and Fabamise (2018) agree that brain drain has negative impacts on health sector of developing nations as it drains the home-country of the adequate workforce. The migration of health workers from developing nations to developed nations has raised fear of an African medical brain drain by reducing the workforce of the health sector in the developing countries.

Health Information: An Insight

Information is an essential element of communication. It simply means cognition and health is the state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing. The mass media collect, store, process and disseminate news and message to bring about attitudinal change and make the audience to take appropriate decisions (Kenechukwu, 2014). This implies that information is the live-wire of the society. Doctors need the mass media for dissemination of information on health trends, and media provide health worker endless arrays of information about health and innovations in the health sector.

This symbiotic relationship between mass media and medical practice encourages the utilisation of information in the health sector. Health information covers the process of gathering information on health and health-related matters (Nwabueze, 2009). Health information involves the dissemination of health-related communication and messages through mainstream media outlets (Kenechukwu, 2018). News on migration occupies media coverage either in print, broadcast or social media. Health regulatory bodies need the information to monitor the number of health workers that migrated to other countries and monitor the output of domestic health workers.

Modes of Information on Migration of Health Workers

There are different media of health information on the migration of health workers. The media of communication include print, broadcast, social media, health newsletters. The effectiveness of each medium is dependent on the characteristics of each medium. The print media, for instance, have two outstanding features: permanence and reviewability. It is a durable mode of disseminating information on the migration of health workers and the most widely used medium of information. The broadcast media have the qualities of audio (radio) and audiovisual (television). These characteristics are most effective in the display of visuals of migrated health workers on television screens. Social media is another veritable mode of dissemination of information on the migration of health workers. The use of

health newsletters circulates within the health sector. It is limited in use as it may not serve a public need.

Regrettably, these media of communication have not been efficiently used in the dissemination of health information on the migration of Nigerian health workers to another country. Most sources of information on the migration of health workers are based on individual statistics than official statistics from the Ministry of Health, Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN) or the Immigration Service. There is also a problem of stating an actual number of health workers that migrated to another country within a stipulated time. This lack of adequate health information raises the question of whether the health sector has reliable documents that chronicle the actual number of health workers that have left the country and what the present numeric strength of the sector is. A provision of a functional database of total licenced and practising health workers in Nigeria will eradicate misleading figures in print, broadcast or social media.

Managing Crisis in Nigeria's Health Sectors: An Information-Seeking Approach

Migration is a global phenomenon. People move from one country to another in search of better living conditions and safety but rarely do we consider the positive and negative implications of migration on socioeconomic strength of a country. Previous strategies of reducing the incidence of migration of health workers included (a) equipping government hospitals with digital equipment, (b) upward review of doctors' salaries and (c) better condition of service. These measures have reduced the rate of migration but not eradicated the trend. The study, therefore, proposes the adoption of an information-seeking approach as a veritable means of checking rising migration trends in the health sector.

This approach is anchored on the premise that information is vital in man's actions. The problem of inaccessibility to health information has weakened effective medical practice in Nigeria. This approach suggests that when information is adequately processed and disseminated to the right audience, it brings about attitudinal change (Kenechukwu, 2014). Records show that academic curriculum for medical practice emphasises more on the interaction between health workers, patients and drugs. The information-seeking approach argues that a health worker should seek information outside the domain of medical practice and manage bits of information derived within and outside core medicine but related

to the field of medicine. Batta (2011, p.91) agrees that 'the preponderance of health issues and problems offer enough rationale for journalism to take health seriously and push the issues to the front burner.' Health issues attract media attention. Health workers need mass media for coverage of events and mass media to perform information functions by covering health issues. The information-seeking approach emphasises the need for the availability of accessible information on health trends in Nigeria. This information must be credible, accessible and objective. It offers health workers the means of accessing information on current breakthroughs in medical practice instead of migrating to other countries. The media of information include the use of newspaper, magazine, television, radio, Internet and other social media platforms.

Theoretical Framework

The study anchored on Lee's theory of migration and information-flow theory. Lee's theory of migration argues that migration is a product of four intervening variables (a) factors associated with the place of origin, (b) factors related to the place of destination, (c) intervening obstacles and (d) personal factors. Lee (1975) explains that migration is driven by an individual assessment of the place of origin before moving into another country. This postulation supports only brain drain syndrome of a direct migration from a country to another for medical practice. The theory is criticised on its inability to consider another form of brain drain syndrome as a result of the refusal of foreign-trained health workers to return to their home-country after training.

On the other hand, the information-flow theory explains how information moves from media to audiences to exert specific intended effects. It provides a theoretical basis for successful public information campaigns and helps the understanding of information flow during crises (Baran and Davis, 2006). The theory supports the information-seeking approach of the study of migration of Nigerian health workers because, there cannot be valid claims on the number of migrating health workers without a standard information system that monitors, records and disseminates information on migration index. However, a significant criticism of the information-flow theory is that it is linear and source-dominated.

Methodology

The study adopted content-analysis of select three documents on the migration of health workers in Nigeria viz: (a) *Nigeria HealthWatch*, (b) *Migration in Nigeria: Thematic Document on Migration and*

Development in Nigeria, and (c) *Migration in Nigeria: A Country Profile*. These documents were selected because of the dearth of specific documents on the migration of Nigeria health workers. Although these documents also covered every aspect of migration, they were chosen because the crux of the study centred on measuring health information aspects of migration index. Major content categories were drafted viz: (a) pattern of migration measured the nature/reasons of migration, (b) prominence measured the frequency of information on migration index, and (c) mode measured the medium of information.

Data Presentations and Discussion

Data were analysed in pie-charts based on the above major content categories

Analysis of the pattern of migration

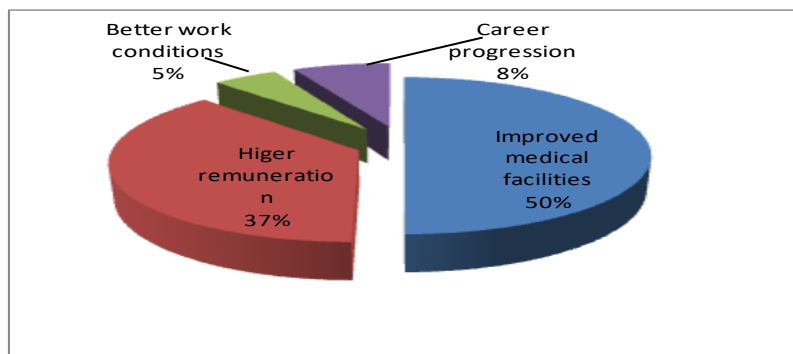


Fig: 1: Nature/reasons for migration

The *Nigeria HealthWatch* document indicated that the significant reason for the migration of health workers to developed nations is improved medical facilities in developed nations. The other documents: *Migration in Nigeria: Thematic Document on Migration and Development in Nigeria* and *Migration in Nigeria: A Country Profile* were silent on the reasons of migration of Nigerian health workers.

Analysis of the prominence of coverage

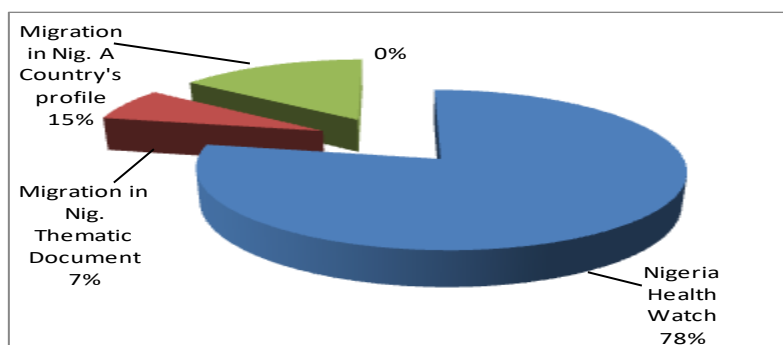


Fig. 2: Prominence of coverage

Figure 2 indicated that *Nigeria HealthWatch* gave more prominence on health information vis-à-vis the migration of Nigerian health workers to developed nations. The coverage was based on empirical studies carried out among medical doctors and other health workers. The remaining documents: *Migration in Nigeria: Thematic Document on Migration and Development in Nigeria* and *Migration in Nigeria: A Country Profile* had minimal coverage of health information on the migration trend.

Analysis of the mode of coverage

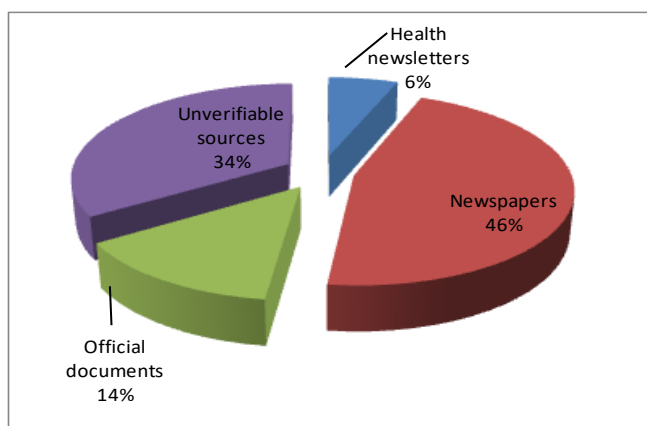


Fig.3: Mode of coverage

Figure 3 indicated that the newspaper is the most widely used medium of dissemination of health on the migration of Nigeria health workers. Significantly, the Figure identified an unconventional medium: unverifiable sources. This implies that some statistics on the rate of migration of these health workers were bogus and figures were used fictitiously.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The study emphasised health information aspect of migration trends than implications of the shift on the socioeconomic development of Nigeria. To this end, the study examined the trends from an

information-seeking approach. The study found that out of the three documents content-analysed, only *Nigeria HealthWatch* gave acceptable (empirical) coverage of migration index. Issues on the migration of health workers were thematically explained in the two documents: *Migration in Nigeria: Thematic Document on Migration and Development in Nigeria* and *Migration in Nigeria: A Country Profile*.

A significant finding of the study was the identification of newspaper as the widely used medium. Interestingly, the study indicated that some sources were unverifiable thus raising severe problems for the use of statistics (figures) in migration index. Some statistics in newspapers and health newsletters seem too fictitious because there were no verifiable sources; for example, Online newspapers of *The Nation* (December 15, 2017) and *Vanguard* (February 6, 2016) recorded that 300 and 227 doctors respectively migrated from Nigeria to other nations. The assertions were based on unverifiable sources than official documents.

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations are proffered:

- a. It is not enough to study the migration index without examining the interaction of emigrants and workplaces. Therefore, there should be continuous studies on the place of health information on migration studies.
- b. For effective information on migration, mainstream media: print, broadcast and social media should be integrated. However, the permanence ability of print media is added advantage as these documents can be preserved for ages.
- c. The Ministry of Health, Immigration Service, Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN) and other stakeholders in the health sector should develop a functional database for the registration of all migrating health workers. This measure will eradicate a situation of using fictitious figures to quantify the number of migrating health workers.
- d. There should be a mainstreaming of migration index into development policies through health information-seeking approach.

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Problem of Corruption: A Fearological Approach

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Abstract

Corruption is one of the maladies plaguing the human society. The reasons for corruption are many, ranging from ignorance to greed; wrong policies to moral degradation and from voluminous bureaucracy to contagion from other countries. Irrespective of the multiplicity of causative factors and subsequent intervention measures, there seems to be no headway in the near future in containing the problem despite resolute good-natured intentions on the part of national governments. It has since long been the subject of searching for the truth as to whether the conventional thinking on causation and proliferation of corruption monster as well as the remedial steps will yield the desired outcome or any divergent rumination is required to deal with the problem anew. As part of the cerebral exercise under the latter proposition, an attempt has been made in this paper to associate the origination of corruption with the feelings of uncertainty and insecurity which in turn are linked to fear. Uncertainty acts as a catalyst for irrational curiosity that tends to trigger action resulting in corrupt practices in the absence of goodness check. This paper also analyses the means and mechanisms by which uncertainty and miscalculated curiosity are resolved through the fearological approach.

Keywords: Corruption, Fear, Pandora's box, Fearology, Government

Uncertainty, Insecurity and Curiosity

According to the Bible, God created Adam and Eve and put them in the Garden of Eden, where they used to live happily. God asked them to enjoy everything in the Garden except eating the fruit of the tree of knowledge. Eve was not knowing (uncertain) about what would happen if the fruit was eaten. She developed curiosity. She knew that her curiosity would attract the wrath of God. Even then, she ate the fruit at the behest of the serpent's temptation, thereby leading to 'fall of man'.

Thus, there is the possibility that uncertainty or insecurity gives rise to curiosity, which acts as a powerful motivator in humans' decision-making processes. In tune with the biblical incident, a new study says, "Curiosity is sometimes so strong that it makes people choose potentially painful and unpleasant outcomes that have no apparent benefits though they have the ability to avoid these outcomes altogether."

Pandora's Box

To explain the findings of the study, the research author Bowen Ruan of the University of Wisconsin–Madison in the US referred to Pandora's box episode. In Greek mythology, Pandora was the first woman, gifted by Zeus to Epimetheus. Zeus gave one box to Epimetheus saying that it was meant to be securely kept and not to be opened. Despite Epimetheus' warning, Pandora became curious and opened the box one day, releasing vengeance, aggressiveness and many other evils into the world.

Ruan infers that curiosity stems from people's deep-seated desire to resolve uncertainty regardless of the harm it may bring. A Swedish psychologist Arne Ohman opined in his research findings that fear has been shaped by evolution as the animals used to feel threatened always by the environmental dangers in prehistoric times. In the modern-day world, fear of the unknown shows up various manifestations in terms of –

- Physical;
- Emotional;
- Social;
- Financial; and
- Spiritual aspects.

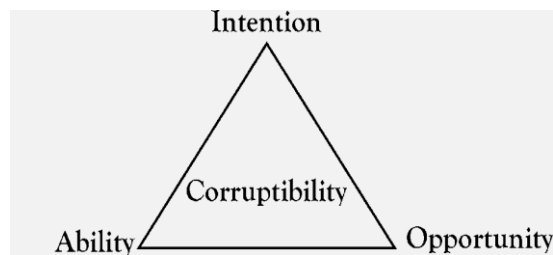
Fear of the Unknown

Fear of the unknown tends to take away self–confidence. It goes hand in hand with the fear of loss of power over survival mechanisms like food, money, safety, security, sex, reputation, status, ego etc. That is the power to control such things or relations that the persons of unethical nature yearn and often succeed to achieve or possess by exploiting all the available means. Such exploitation includes not only illicit financial gains but also intellectual, moral, spiritual and cultural transgressions. And this power tends to corrupt, by misusing itself for personal advantage.

The 19th century English historian Lord Acton is quite popular for his most famous quote – "Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power tends to corrupts absolutely. Great men are almost always bad men." The 1991 Nobel peace prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi of Myanmar said, "It is not power that corrupts but fear." Here what Lord Acton and Suu Kyi said about corruption was the same – similar in philosophy but seemingly in two different perspectives like Mobius strip that initially looks as if it has two sides but is one-sided. It is the acquisition of power that leads to fear of loss of power that sets the wheel of corruption into motion.

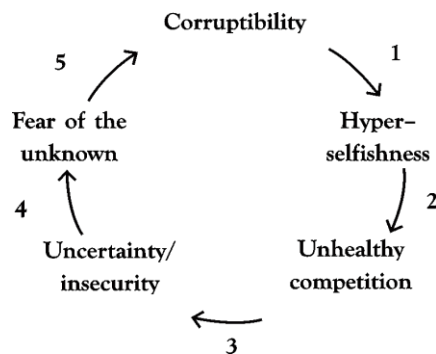
Corruptibility Triangle

Like any event or occurrence, corruptibility also requires three prerequisites for it to happen.



Fear of loss of power to control becomes 'intention', an intention to execute by any means. Power or authority or strength associated with the perpetrator becomes 'ability'. Convenience or suitability of circumstances turns into 'opportunity' for the execution of the intended task. Corruptibility, being in direct proportionality with hyper-selfishness; unhealthy competition, uncertainty/insecurity and fear of the unknown, form a vicious cycle.

The Corruptibility Vicious Cycle

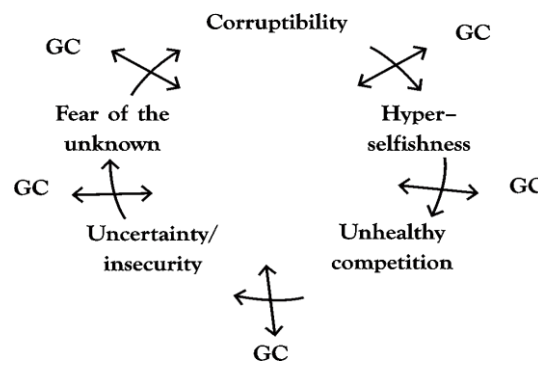


There are five crescents in the cycle. The cycle can be broken at any of the crescents.

American mathematician John Allen Paulos said, “Uncertainty is the only certainty there is, and knowing how to live with insecurity is the only security.” As long as this realisation in positive terms is not attained, corruptibility is directly proportional to uncertainty and insecurity.

Goodness Check

As a diamond is used to cut diamond, the nexus amongst the linking factors needs to be dealt with similarly. Since all the factors are socio–psycho-spiritual in nature, rectification shall be sought from that of the same nature – that is goodness check (GC), which can break the vicious cycle.



The aim of goodness check is to turn the feeling of uncertainty into a simple altruistic assurance, whereby curiosity itself loses its reality. When the signs of uncertainty and curiosity are no longer existent, their manifested form known as fear is automatically resolved, paving the way for annulment of corruptibility. Goodness check is a ‘three-in-one’ construct, trinitarianising the following checks –

1. Belief check
2. Reality check
3. Ethics check

Belief Check

Long back, one famous writer said that he had no belief in belief. Belief should always conform to positivity. If somebody says that something should not be done, we need not believe blindly; traditions and customs figure in this category, which are area and time–specific. Also, individual specific, the old expression ‘an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth’ might be a justifiable proposition in ancient times. Because such was the belief, if there was a grave wound inflicted upon somebody, it was justified for the victim to cause injury in the same manner like hand for hand or foot for foot or burn for burn or even life for life. This form of ‘justice’ was accepted in certain societies in olden days, but in the current world, such traditions or customs are not acceptable as they do not conform to present democratic laws. Only

those belief systems which are in congruence with modern law can continue to exist. Here are two quotes:

- The world we see that seems so insane is the result of a belief system that is not working. To perceive the world differently, we must be willing to change our belief system, let the past slip away, expand our sense of now, and dissolve the fear in our minds.– **William James** Father of American Psychology
- Any man who stands for progress has to criticise, disbelieve and challenge every item of the old faith. - **Shaheed Bhagat Singh** An Indian Patriot

In Gita, Lord Krishna says to Arjuna, "Don't believe anything blindly, but reflect on it and use your discretion. And then you make your choice." So a belief, in order to be true, must stand the test of verification and proof. Otherwise, decisions being taken based on unconfirmed beliefs will go wrong and cause damage.

Wikipedia makes clarification between belief and knowledge as, "a belief is an internal thought or memory which exists in one's mind. Most people accept that for a belief to be 'knowledge', it must be at least true and justified." In this context, the following character types will emerge depending upon the people and to what they profess – belief or knowledge:

| | Belief | Knowledge |
|--------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Profess | Procrustes | Socrates |
| Unconcerned | Dhritarashtra | Pilate |

- Procrustes: A ruthless robber in Greek mythology, who used to stretch or cut his victims to make them fit his inflexible iron bed.

- Socrates: The ancient Greek thinker and one of the founders of Western philosophy, who was known for infusing the people vociferously with considerations of justice and the pursuit of goodness.
- Dhritarashtra: The blind king of Hastinapur in the epic Mahabharata, who was silent and indifferent to the misdeeds of his son Duryodhana.
- Pilate: The Roman governor of Judaea, who sought to avoid personal responsibility for the crucifixion of Jesus by washing his hands in front of the crowd.

Reality Check

Reality check enables one to appreciate the situation in the right perspective. Qualities of a thing or situation do not remain constant at all times, at all places or with all individuals. In the 12th century England, Robin Hood used to plunder the localities inhabited by rich people. He used to rob them mercilessly and distributed the booty to the poor. He also led an uprising, causing chaos in the society. Such notoriety made him a hero amongst the masses. But the same act, if done now – the era of rule of law, will not stand the test of mainstream standards. So any action, proposed or initiated, should adhere to the reality perspective – that is whether appropriate in real terms. The highway man turned sage Valmiki in an ancient Indian legend was a good example. Enlightened by the divine Narada, he realised that his criminal behaviour was neither befitting nor benefitting his real life and he reformed himself to be a good and useful man.

Ethics Check

Whenever we find ourselves in a dilemma, ethics check will come to our rescue. Some circumstances at times arise when we are unable to decide upon the course of action. Then consideration needs to be given to various alternatives available, legalities and moralities. Here is a scenario:

- You are a newly appointed CEO, on a visit to the capital. You ask the local officer friend to take you for a drive in the evening. The local officer takes you to a hotel and tells you that the owner likes to have business executives around, especially during dinner time to show his proximity to the rich and famous. You enter the hotel with your friend and the manager warmly welcomes both of you. After the exchange of pleasantries, the manager asks for your preference. Your

friend orders expensive dishes and all the trimmings and informs you that the hotel owner does not accept any charge from the 'big' people for meals etc. What are you going to do?

So, in this context, one should apply an ethics check in the following manner:

- Whether the action contemplated will be in public interest?
- Whether it will make one feel happy?
- Whether it will make the larger public happy?
- Whether it is legally and morally correct?

Thriving in Uncertainty: Disruptive Education and Adaptive Innovative Entrepreneurship

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Abstract

Nigeria and indeed Nigerians have found themselves at unique crossroads in the most fast-paced evolving periods in human history. A period faced with two giant strands of disruptions: Political dystopia and technological disruption. The first political situation has left the people severely estranged in acute disillusionment and utter desperation. Secondly, there is this raging wave of technological disruption closing in on jobs and disrupting the usual way of life, cultures and belief systems. With these two disruptive waves, Nigerians are caged in a precarious situation where there is a need for urgent remedy. Using a qualitative methodological research approach this paper offers two solutions for the two problems. One is a new form of education imbued in the type of education promoted through CRIS Academy (An academy in proposition). An education that prepares the student for the kind of future technology promises humanity. And for the second problem (political dystopia) the paper proposes a new model of development known as *individually Propelled Growth (IPG)*. This paper recommends the setting up of special private schools in a controlled environment to be run by private institutions where this form of education can be test run. It also recommends that the IPG model of development be carved into the national curriculum of studies starting from primary education to tertiary.

Keywords: Political Dystopia, Technological Disruption, Individually Propelled Growth (**IPG**), Entrepreneurship, Disruptive Education.

Introduction

Humanity has found itself in the most uncertain of all times since its history. It has found itself in the most unprecedented times with the different changes in the realities of the world. The nature of time and evolution has changed in principle and effect. In the past, it took long periods for change to occur (several generations sometimes), but today a lot now happens in six months and one year. All of these are mainly attributable to the exponential growth of our modern technologies which are responsible for causing dramatic disruptions in different sectors of our lives. From education, energy, health/medicine,

transport, to government, culture, social life, economics, business, and sports. We are entering a time when the rate of growth in our technology will become so rapid and its effects so profound that we won't be able to catch up with its rate of acceleration and as it would appear our very own creation would increasingly threaten us.

From this part of the world (Nigeria) the level of uncertainty is even more profound as our peculiar situation compounds the whole issue for us. We have found ourselves in a double predicament, a double uncertainty. We are in an age of political uncertainty, of politicians who are dwarfed in the art of architecting the state and leaders who not only lack the vision, purpose and right influence but are equally moronically clueless in the art of leadership. We are in a time where the wave of anti-intellectualism among the citizenry is on a high and disregard for values of the common good, and common sense is encouraging mediocrity in every cadre of the social network. And so we are witnessing in Nigeria a vicious political disruption that has kept us in the loop of existential agony and despair. It is a disruption which I can descriptively summarise as simply a "political dystopia".

We find ourselves in an age of exponential growth in a techno-digital society caused by the rise in artificial intelligence, biotechnology and nanotechnology (GNR: Genetics, Nanotech, and Robotics) which is seen in the merger of the biotech revolution with the infotech revolution causing the most enormous unprecedented shift in not only the history of humankind but of life itself. A disruptive process that is determined by the massive automation, and digitisation of all the sectors of human society together with the shattering transformative trends of globalisation, innovation and growth which are causing challenging disruptions in every sector of human society. Therefore we have AI and biotech (GNR) leading the trends of digitisation, globalisation, innovation, growth and disruption.

We have found ourselves in an unusual negative political disruptive situation plus a technological disruption placing us in a unique period of uncertainty in our history. As a species, our exceptional characteristic strength that ensured our evolutionary survival from the African savannah to the different parts we have found ourselves in the world is the ability to **sense**, adapt and **survive**. How then can we employ these unique strengths of ours in overcoming these very challenges that threaten us both

as a country and as a specie? It is the distinctive realistic issues posed by this challenging situation that forms the background and thrust of this paper.

A Political Dystopia (Political Disruption)

The existential situation in Nigeria is traumatic and vicious. With 87 million poor citizens Nigeria is currently the poverty capital of the world (Akinkuotu, 2018). With a generation capacity of 6803 MW and 55% of the population without access to grid-supplied electricity (Solar Plaza, 2018) it is the second worst after Yemen in electricity supply in the world. It has the most significant number of out-of-school children (over 10 million), with 54million illiterates and an illiteracy rate of 61% none of its universities ranks amongst the first 700th in the world. It has one of the lowest life expectancy rates in the world. And according to a study by the Economist Intelligence Unit, EIU has ranked Nigeria as the worst place for a baby born in 2013with a score of 4.74 out of 10, just below Kenya which scored 4.91 (Ezemalu, 2012).

The rate of hunger in Nigeria is very high. Nigeria is a material based consumerist economy that relies heavily on fazing crude oil. Olaoye, Ajilore, Akinluwade, Omole, Adetunji (2016) observed that Nigerians spent as at 2012 1.6 trillion naira yearly and 4.9 trillion naira as at the year 2018 (“Nigerians spend N4.9 trillion on generators annually to self-generate 14 gigawatts of electricity, RMI report”, 2018) on generators and consumes 9 billion USD a year in inefficient fuel and so far the government has invested over 2 trillion naira in the power sector in the past 16 years yet it ranks as the second worst country in electricity only behind the war-stricken country of Yemen. The cost of governance in Nigeria is one of the highest in the world, yet it has the most unstable governments and weakest democracies in the world where the rule of law is severed from and subject to the national interest. A senator receives on average over 13.5million naira monthly (Busari, 2018) and over 160 million naira per year apart from their statutory allowance.

All of these problems have left the sociopolitical and economic situation in Nigeria unstable and unreliable. In addition to this, the process of running politics, governance and institutions have become crude, anachronistic, redundant and dysfunctional. From the very inception of this country, we have

been through many regimes and systems, and since the democratic process of the country, many administrations have tried and failed with many policies, programmes, and action plans. Blame it on poor leadership, bad will, ignorance, poor structure, ill-structured foundation or selfish ethnicity and clannishness or an acute combination of these factors the main issue is that the system has failed. It has proven time and time again to be dysfunctional, unreliable, unsustainable, unfeasible, and redundant. Therefore we need a new effective model.

Digital and Technological Disruption

Technology has always been throughout history as man's enabler, how man augments his abilities. Without technology, humans wouldn't have survived the evolutionary battle of natural selection. Homo sapiens are the most sophisticated tool-making animal that we can tell for now. Ever since the first man picked up a stick to reach a higher branch, humans have not stopped in their drive to build better tools to enhance their existence. And so technology has served continuously as the artificial enabler of man to thrive in his natural environment.

A research conducted on the efficiency of locomotion of all animal species, i.e. on the amount of energy they expended to get from point A to point B found out that of all the animals the condor was the most efficient in locomotion leaving humans far behind the list. But you give a human a tool, a bicycle and he gets to the top of the list. Steve jobs likened the computer as the bicycle of the mind. Human technological devices could be mental or material. It is mental or cognitive when it is seen in culture, religion, etc. and it is material when it is in physical tools as in phones, cars, etc.

Our technological tools (mental or material) have always disrupted us right from the time we became tool-making animals. At every stage we doubled down on our tools; it eased off some of the work we did and changed the way we lived. Sometimes it entailed changing our old habits and adopting new ones or gaining new traits or abilities altogether. In some extreme situations, it changed both our environment and our biology. This evidently, shows how powerful our technological tools can get that they can not only improve our world but us entirely. And as our cognitive abilities evolve and get even more complicated, our attendant technology that is shaped by our thinking and problems get even more sophisticated causing even more profound shifts and disruptions at a more outstanding scale.

Robots care for us as we grow old, while cyber attacks against our homes and extinct animals are brought back to life with technological advancements. Ubiquitous sensors eliminating privacy as we now know it, designer babies i.e. humans with specially selected enhanced traits by their parents, self-driving cars disrupting millions of truck drivers, intelligent AI diagnosing almost every kind of ailment, robotic surgeons that perform significant operations on the human body with the most exceptional ease, accuracy and efficiency, AI personal assistants that do almost everything for us from scheduling meetings, shopping and even voting in an election for us. These changes might appear as being both interestingly sci-fi and disorienting or even more than a little scary." But yet this is what our future will most likely look like.

The advent of technoscientific realities like artificial intelligence and biotechnology has also revolutionised the way we create and do things. It has seen the emergence of a massive wind of automation sweeping across all repetitive jobs done by humans. It is projected that 5 million jobs will be lost to technology by 2020. With the industrial revolution, we transcended the limits of our muscles, with the digital revolution we transcended the boundaries of our minds ushering us into what some scholars like Klaus Schwab have identified as the fourth industrial revolution. And so with full-scale automation and digitisation of almost all repetitive jobs done by humans by the end of this century signalling the end of human drudgery, what kinds of jobs will humans do? What will be the definition of work? How can people reinvent themselves to be still productive? How can people be engaged in meaningful work? How will people find meaning and purpose at work? Lastly, what does this kind of future portend for us in this part of the world (Nigeria)? These are the questions we as a specie, a people, a country and as individuals need to answer to stay relevant in this future that awaits us with so many surprises.

An essential ability of man above his technology is his capacity to think (reason/imagination) this one ability is what distinguishes man from every other animal species or being in the planet and equally places him at the pinnacle and centre of the world. One activity that sharpens and develops the human reasoning capacity is education. So when faced with whatever kind of futuristic challenge the best avenue through which humans can be better prepared for what awaits them in the future is through

education. Besides, we cannot think of a better means to prepare us for the next generation of disruptive technologies than by equipping ourselves with the proper kind of education.

However, the current kind of education in use in our country (and indeed most countries around the world) is not in tandem with the type of problems and challenges this technoscientific 21st century holds for us all. It is ill-structured, outlandish, anachronistic and counterproductive. Most of our school curriculum and style of formal education are modelled in the 19th and 20th centuries to suit the needs of that time. But with the advancement in science and technology, we are now in the 21st century characterised by enormous shifts in our economy, cultures, tradition, social life, entertainment, etc. Consider these: our transportation, medicine, economics, fashions, language, mode of the business transaction has all dramatically changed in the past two centuries. What has remained almost practically the same are our educational systems, religious systems and mostly our political structures. All these three were set in the model of the 19th and 20th century's societal structure and problems. And all of them are hugely dependent on our educational system. Therefore if we want to change our religion and politics to suit the realities of our time we need to change our educational system. Applying the methodology of the 19th and 20th century in solving the challenges of the 21st century will surely be counterproductive because of the time, preferences, problems and settings are quite different.

We, therefore, need a new model of education that would be set in the 21st century time frame and address the challenges of its time. This kind of education would have to address and hone the skills needed in the age of fast-paced technological advancements of 21st century. This kind of education would hone such skills as the ability in us to be leaders, to learn and unlearn new skills, to be emotionally intelligent, to have the digital skills required to stay afloat in our age and to drive a robust collaborative team spirit in organisations and communities. A good review of some of these skills will help reveal what they bring to the table.

A New Model of Development: Individually Propelled Growth (IPG):

To salvage the situation, a new model of development would have to be put into practice. This model I refer to as *individually Propelled Growth* (IPG). The philosophic principle behind this model of development is based on an individual-private corporative development. With the mantra: *whatever you want to see in your community or country build it yourself*. Be it electric power, healthcare insurance,

affordable housing, standard education, effective transport system or standard social safety welfare system etc.

The engine block or heart of Individually Propelled Growth (IPG) model is *entrepreneurship*. It is the single catalyst for solving a host of the problems bedeviling the country; it would serve as the conduit for repositioning the economy. The principles of IPG are embedded in *creativity and disruptive-innovative Entrepreneurship*. These encourage the qualities of goodwill, genuine discomfort, vision/purpose, smart, hard work, creative thinking, innovation, determination/passion, strategic planning, calculated risk-taking and leadership. Entrepreneurship is described as a means of *creating something new with value* by applying the necessary time and effort as well as *assuming the accompanying financial, psychic, and social risks*. It equally, entails receiving the resulting rewards of monetary and personal satisfaction and independence. To apply this, we need to adopt a model that is system reorganising. (Šebestová,, 2014). Such a system is made up of the elemental traits of creativity, innovation, investigation, trust, critical thinking, and purposeful leadership.

The proposed model of IPG is akin to Joseph Alois Schumpeter's economic theory of creative destruction. Schumpeter (1950) surmise development as a "spontaneous and discontinuous change in the channels of flow, disturbance of equilibrium which forever alters and displaces the equilibrium state previously existing" (Gordon, 2008). The innovation concept and its corollary development have five functions:

1. Introduction of a new good/service
2. Introduction of a new method of production
3. Opening of a new market
4. Conquest of a new source of supply of raw materials and
5. Carrying out of a new organisation of any industry. (Relivingmbadays, 2013).

Schumpeter explained that entrepreneurship is not a profession or a permanent occupation and therefore, cannot formulate a social class like a capitalist. He notes some characteristics of an entrepreneur:

- Psychologically, entrepreneurs are not solely motivated by profit.

- High degree of risk and uncertainty in Schumpeterian World.
- Highly motivated and talented individual.
- Profit is merely a part of the objectives of the entrepreneur.
- Progress under capitalism is much slower than it is.
- It is leadership rather than ownership which matters. (Relivingmbadays, 2013).

Applying this model of development would see major institutions and critical aspects of life essential amenities removed from the hands of government totally and strategically placed in the hands of private individuals who would consciously design the system to be effective and efficient.

It is important to note at this juncture that the IPG model being proposed is quite different from mere privatisation of critical sectors or agencies in government. In government privatisation, the system put in place is designed and organised by the old government (it is top-bottom privatisation). Conversely, the IPG model is a bottom-top system of distribution and organisation that is highly optimised by technology. In the IPG model, even the government is systematised in a private corporative fashion. This brings efficiency and effectiveness into the system. The system organises, orients, decides and meets the government and not the other way round. The IPG model is a system reorganisation; it is a people-oriented hostage takeover guided by the ideals of common sense, the common good, abundance, innovation, trust and progress. It is a call to displace and disrupt the government and place private institutions at the centre of development. This system will be initially left to the forces of the free market, highly optimised by innovative technology riding at the back of Moore's law with the customer or citizen at the centre of the whole system.

Here the focus is the customer-citizen whom everyone is trying to please, provision of necessities, amenities, governance and politics in this kind of system would become a product or good to be marketed and will go to the most creative, innovative and effective marketer.

A New kind of Education and Skills for the Technoscientific Age

Student Customized Education: This is a kind of educational system that is structured to focus all the attention on the student, developing different methods to harness the individual potential of each student. This is a kind of educational system where different experts/teachers are assigned to a student who will help the student to rediscover their potential. This kind of model will do away with the grading

system that tries to measure the immeasurable vast potential of the student that is yet to be harnessed. It would focus strictly on praxis. With brain scans, psychological and DNA profiling the personality type of each will be determined which will enable the institution to set him/her in the right environment, with the right professionals, tools. It will also create the right experience that would hone better the skills of the student and enable him or her to develop better. Each student will have a unique academic curriculum and syllables tailored to meet their individual needs; it would be a kind of "customised education".

This type of educational system would spur and nurture the right kind of skills and experiences that would prepare the student for a techno-scientific age. It is this kind of education that I have referred to as ***Disruptive Education***. Some of the necessary skills and character this kind of education offers and the type that would be needed in this technoscientific age are: entrepreneurial thinking and spirit; innovative thinking and digital skills such as:

- Programming and Web Development- At the heart of any tech product or digital service is coding.
- App Development.
- Digital Design.
- Project Management.
- Product Management.
- Digital Marketing.
- Social Media.
- International Team Working Experience.
- Big Data.
- 3D Printing.

Other essential skills are meditation/mindfulness; emotional intelligence; critical thinking and initiative (or imagination); leadership capacity and ability to learn and to unlearn (efficiency in learning – openness to knowledge). The rest include data/information management (information overload, i.e. deluge of data); a good understanding of the notion of time and change; the ability to know thyself: data privacy and protection; and attention management.

As the wave of automation and digitisation sweeps aside all repetitive jobs around the world the gnawing impact will be felt more. Not in the technological paradise of Silicon Valley nor in the world's business commercial hubs of New York, Hong Kong, or Shanghai nor the world's welfare safe havens of Norway, Netherlands, Australia, Singapore and Switzerland; but in the smouldering plains of the world's infamous hellish places like Yemen, Mogadishu and indeed the world's current poverty capital, Nigeria. These are the places where the populace will have no hope of survival at all; these are where there are no physical boosting infrastructure, no economic development, indigent educational systems, no healthcare system, no social safety, net structures, crude and unsustainable political institutions. These are where the people have no means of survival, where the leaders care less and have no clue as to what is going on, where human life and dignity have been reduced to zero. This is where the coming apocalyptic technological doomsday will have a severe impact and just like the Marxian world produced the urban proletarian lower class of the 19th and 20th century Industrial Age so will we see according to Yuval Noah Harari a "useless class" of the 21st century digital age.

Therefore as rational and good-hearted humans living in Nigeria we all have a duty to save ourselves and children from these political and technological disruptions. We are in the most privileged time of human history which has seen us have the most peaceful and prosperous cities and countries so far; and when we have the requisite knowledge, tools and resources to achieve whatever dreams, needs and wants we may have. Fifty, hundred to two hundred years from now people will look back at this period and say if only we were at this time which was the beginning of a whole lot of the technologies and scientific discoveries that informed the changes we see today in our societies we would have steered it better. What it means is that it is not yet late to start today to make the changes we would like to see in the future. Let us set up the kind of educational system we need for the future today that would influence every other aspect of our social, political, economic and religious milieu so that posterity will look on us with justice.

Recommendation and Conclusion: Future Discussions and Solutions (FDS) and Centre for Research and Innovative Studies – CRIS Academy

There is therefore, a pressing need for a platform where these challenges will be discussed and practical solutions provided. This would help steer the narrative in our country and continent and not only raise the needed consciousness of these issues but give us the required possible solutions. For this reason, I am setting up CRIS Academy and Future Discussions and Solutions, a platform where these pertinent issues will be discussed constructively and relevant solutions proffered. The good and constructive suggestive solutions proffered will be packaged, organised and executed. This platform will allow us to form cohesive and cooperative partnerships that would pool resources together and build the businesses, institutions and systems that would drive the change we wish to see and also save our future.

At Future Discussions, we treat issues involving the two major disruptions we are faced with and give proper solutions to this effect. Our constructive and fruitful conversations in Future Discussions will set the platform for the work we will do at CRIS academy where we will teach the requisite skills we need to thrive in the age of disruptions and imbue in the participants the right entrepreneurial spirit and zeal to take on innovation and exponential growth and most importantly provide the support needed to scale these innovative dreams.

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