GROOMING POTENTIAL CRIMINALS FROM THE IDP CAMPS IN NORTH-EAST NIGERIA: MATTER ARISING

Jimoh Buhari Edun
Department of Sociology
Faculty of Social Sciences,
Federal University of Lafia, Nasarawa State, Nigeria
jimohbuhariedun@gmail.com

&

Mustapha Hanafi-Idiaro
Registry Department, Federal University of Lafia
Nasarawa State, Nigeria
idiarom@gmail.com

Abstract
The phenomenon of internally displaced persons (IDPs) is significantly prevalent in North-East Nigeria, where socio-economic challenges and security issues have escalated owing to prolonged conflicts. This study was designed to x-ray the factors contributing to criminal grooming within IDP populations, and explore the socio-economic implicatiins of displacement-related crimes in Bauchi State. The research employed Routine Activity Theory to understand the environmental factors that facilitate crime among IDPs. The study used multistage sample technique to select the participant. A survey was conducted with 320 respondents, including IDPs and stakeholders in IDP management, to gather insight on the conditions that aggrandize criminal tendency. The results indicated that unemployment and inadequate educational opportunities, inter Alia, could be perceived as significant facilitators of criminal grooming. By virtue of these findings, it has been highlighted that crime within IDP camps worsens economic conditions, exacerbates poverty, and fosters social tensions with host communities. The study concluded with recommendations for policy interventions, including job creation programs, improved healthcare access, and enhanced camp security. These measures, if adequately met, would go a long way in tackling the root cause of criminal grooming in this part of the world.

Keywords: Criminal, Internally Displaced Persons, Routine Activity Theory.

Introduction

The phenomenon of internally displaced persons (IDPs) is a global crisis that has increased to a disturbing degree in recent decades, apparently driven by conflicts, natural disasters, and socio-economic instability. According to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), there are approximately 68.3 million IDPs, constituting 58% of the world's forcibly displaced population (UNHCR, 2023). While many international organizations work towards resettling and supporting IDPs, the focus on the social consequences of displacement, including crime, remains limited and vague. A report by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) shows that this displacement often exposes the IDPs to heightened vulnerability, including exposure to violence, brutality, and exploitation, coupled with limited access to essential services. The precarious conditions that define the grim realities of life within IDP camps can translate into a cesspit for criminal activities, both as victims and potential perpetrators.

Despite conjoint efforts to combat this crippling phenomenon, several countries

have continued, rather chaotically, to experience high proportions of internally displaced persons (IDPs), particularly due to lingering conflicts and palpable instability, with Syria, Ukraine, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Colombia, Yemen, and Afghanistan topping the list (IDMC, 2021; Khouzam & Verma, 2020). In addition to these nations, countries in Africa, including Ethiopia, Nigeria, Somalia, and Sudan, have recorded substantial numbers in IDP populations, resulting from violence, political tensions, and environmental crises (Kelley, 2022). When the COVID-19 pandemic came with bizarre health challenges that almost shook the world to its foundation, it did not only complicate the plight of IDPs, but also exacerbated pre-existing vulnerabilities and social inequalities. This situation has, in turn, intensified displacement rates and increased humanitarian needs globally. In 2020 alone, IDMC documented over 5 million new displacements linked to conflict and violence, underscoring the severity of these challenges. Moreover, pandemic-induced restrictions have impeded the effective provision of humanitarian aid and hindered response efforts, complicating the ability of international agencies to meet the essential needs of these displaced populations (IDMC, 2021; Khouzam & Verma, 2020; Kelley, 2022).

In Nigeria, different forms of internal displacement are evident, including those factors inducing IDP (Mohammed, 2017). Over a decade, conflicts initiated by Boko Haram have left millions affected, with more than 2 million individuals still displaced (International Organization for Migration [IOM], 2022). Many internally displaced persons (IDPs) have settled in self-established locations or within host communities, often remaining "invisible" and lacking essential support (Olanrewaju, Olanrewaju, Omotoso, Alabi, Amoo, Loromeke, & Ajayi, 2019; United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs [UNOCHA], 2016). Conflict has been a common factor leading to continuous population displacement, fragmented across time and regions, with

some individuals newly displaced while others return to their areas of origin, only to later return to displacement camps (IOM, 2022). IDPs face numerous challenges, including insufficient assistance, insecurity, health issues, and a lack of rehabilitation options (Salleh, Ahmad, & Jamil, 2018; Oluwasanmi et al., 2017; Amine & Ibrahim, 2019). Host communities are also significantly impacted, as the influx of IDPs strains local resources (Verme & Schuettler, 2021). A research by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) indicates that young Nigerian IDPs are especially vulnerable to criminal grooming by gangs and terrorist organizations, as they often have limited opportunities for stable livelihood (UNDP, 2020). Studies have further demonstrated that the poor living conditions in IDP camps contribute to increased crime rates, as displaced youth resort to illegal activities for survival (Human Rights Watch, 2021). This situation calls for immediate action to address the root causes of displacement and establish sustainable support for affected individuals. Hence, this study sought to examine the threats of internally displaced persons and grooming of potential criminals in Bauchi state, North-East, Nigeria: the future in perspective.

Statement of the Problem

Nigeria has experienced significant disruption due to prolonged insurgencies, primarily perpetrated by Boko Haram and other terrorist groups, especially in the North—East region of the country. This violent activity has resulted in extensive internal displacement, with approximately 2.4 million individuals displaced within the region as of July 2023, largely due to ongoing conflicts (U.S. Department of State, 2023). The forced migration of this population has not only dismantled local socio-economic structures but also fostered environments where criminal activities, particularly the recruitment and grooming of pastoral criminals can proliferate.

Efforts by government authorities at various levels have been significant in managing

internally displaced persons (IDPs) across different states. For example, the Federal Government established the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to oversee emergency relief operations and provide support for rehabilitation. In addition, some states have their own Emergency Management Agencies (SEMAs), though their capabilities differ. Furthermore, various NGOs, with the Nigerian Red Cross (NRC) leading humanitarian support, have worked alongside the government to support IDPs, particularly by providing healthcare, food, sanitation, and safe drinking water (Refworld, 2011). NGOs have been instrumental in meeting some basic needs of IDPs, but their vulnerability is heightened due to barriers in accessing healthcare, education, jobs, economic opportunities, and participation in decision-making that impacts their lives.

Despite these efforts, Nigerian IDPs continue to face insecurity, exploitation, and abuse, including rape and confinement in overcrowded shelters, isolated, unsafe, or inhospitable areas. Many IDPs, especially unaccompanied children, elderly individuals, persons with disabilities, and pregnant women are separated from family members, and their specific needs often go unmet due to uncoordinated humanitarian responses. Additionally, IDPs encounter barriers to justice in cases of rights violations, including discrimination against ethnic and religious minorities, sexual violence, and economic deprivation (Federal Republic of Nigeria, 2012). These challenges reflect the existing gaps in Nigeria's approach to managing IDPs. In fact, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimated in 2018 that Nigeria would need approximately $66.6 million to adequately manage its IDP population. The UNHCR later increased its supplementary budget by $9.5 million, bringing the total funding requirement to $76.2 million for addressing the needs of IDPs affected by Boko Haram violence and the recent return of Nigerian refugees.

The situation in Nigeria's Northeast region is particularly severe compared to other parts of the country. The poverty rate in this region is estimated at 78%, making it the second-highest nationwide. Compared to southern regions, residents in the Northeast are four times more likely to lack access to education, with malnutrition rates steadily increasing. Only 30% of people in this region have access to safe drinking water, and basic sanitation services are accessible to just 45% of the population. Unemployment rates among the youth in the Northeast are also alarming, reaching 33%, the highest in the country. This exacerbates the socio-economic challenges faced by the region's population, further intensifying the hardships within IDP camps where access to employment opportunities is already limited. Due to limited access to electricity and cooking fuels like kerosene or gas, about 97.7% of households in the region rely on firewood for cooking (African Development Bank, 2013; National Bureau of Statistics of Nigeria, 2012; USAID Nigeria, 2003).

To address the interconnected issues of internal displacement and the rise in criminality, a multifaceted approach is required. This should include socio-economic reintegration programs, strengthened security initiatives, and community-based interventions that foster social cohesion. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) emphasizes the importance of sustainable, long-term solutions for IDPs, advocating for initiatives that restore livelihood and support community integration (IOM, 2023). In the absence of such measures, the cycle of displacement and associated criminality is likely to continue, threatening regional stability and overall development. It is in view of this that this research work sets out to examine the threats of internally displaced persons and grooming of potential criminals in Bauchi state, North-East, Nigeria: the future in perspective.

Research Questions

What conditions facilitate the grooming of IDPs into criminal activities in Bauchi State, North-East Nigeria?

What are the potential socio-economic implications of displacement and criminality in Bauchi State, North-East Nigeria?

Research Objectives
This study will examine the threats of internally displaced persons and grooming of potential criminals in Bauchi State, North-East, Nigeria. Specifically, the study's objectives are:
i. To identify the conditions that facilitate the grooming of IDPs into criminal activities in Bauchi State, North-East Nigeria.
ii. To assess the potential socio-economic implications of displacement and criminality in Bauchi State, North-East Nigeria.

Literature Review

Internally Displaced Persons
Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are defined by the United Nations as individuals or groups who have been forced to leave their homes or places of habitual residence due to armed conflict, violence, human rights violations, or natural disasters, but who remain within their country's borders (United Nations, 1998). This distinction from refugees, who cross international borders, is central to the concept, as IDPs remain under the jurisdiction of their own country rather than international protection. The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) further describes IDPs as those who, while remaining within their own country, lack the protection and services typically available to citizens, as displacement often brings loss of access to healthcare, housing, and education (IDMC, 2021).
The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) expands on this by highlighting the heightened vulnerability of IDPs, who are exposed to poverty, violence, and exploitation due to their status within conflict zones, often without sufficient legal or social safeguards (ICRC, 2021). Similarly, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) points out that IDPs are among the most vulnerable groups in conflict zones, facing threats such as malnutrition, inadequate shelter, and lack of healthcare, as they are often stranded in areas with limited security (UNHCR, 2021). According to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), IDPs, especially women and children, are frequently subjected to human rights abuses, as displacement often leaves them isolated from social and legal protections (OHCHR, 2021).

Criminal
The concept of "criminal" is commonly defined as a person who has committed an act that is forbidden by law and punishable by the state. According to Siegel (2019), a criminal is an individual who violates established laws and, as a result, faces legal sanctions which may include fines, imprisonment, or other forms of punishment. This definition emphasizes the role of law in defining criminal behavior, which varies by jurisdiction. Williams and McShane (2018) similarly describe a criminal as someone who engages in behaviors deemed illegal by society's governing authorities, highlighting that criminal acts are often shaped by the norms and values specific to a culture or community.
The sociological perspective adds another dimension to the understanding of criminality. Durkheim (1893) argued that criminal behavior is an inevitable aspect of society because not all individuals conform to social norms. His view underscores the idea that crime is not just a legal issue but also a social one, shaped by factors such as economic inequality, education, and family structure. Lombroso (1876), known for his early work in criminology, approached the concept of a criminal from a biological standpoint, suggesting that certain physical characteristics were indicators of a "born criminal." While this theory has been largely discredited, it highlights the historical attempts to understand criminality through both physical and psychological attributes.
More contemporary perspectives, such as

those presented by Hagan (2020), focus on the social and psychological motivations behind criminal behavior. Hagan defines criminals as individuals whose behaviors are shaped by a combination of personal, social, and environmental factors, suggesting that crime is often a result of complex interactions between an individual's circumstances and their choices. Meanwhile, Quinney (1977) introduces a critical theory approach, arguing that the definition of "criminal" is often determined by those in power, and what constitutes criminal behavior can change over time based on societal shifts and legal reforms. Thus, the concept of "criminal" is fluid, shaped by both legal definitions and broader social influences.

Conditions Facilitating the Grooming of IDPs into Criminal Activities

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) frequently encounter severe socio-economic challenges that leave them susceptible to criminal exploitation. Displacement disrupts livelihood, leading to significant unemployment and poverty among IDP populations. The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC, 2021) reports that displaced individuals often lack access to income-generating activities, which exacerbates their economic hardships. This economic instability may push some IDPs toward illicit activities as a survival mechanism. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, 2021) further emphasizes that economic disenfranchisement among displaced populations increases their vulnerability to recruitment by criminal networks. In the same vein, the International Organization for Migration (IOM, 2023) highlights how a lack of economic opportunities can foster negative coping mechanisms, including involvement in criminal activities.

The disruption of social structures caused by displacement is another factor that can facilitate the grooming of IDPs into criminal behavior. Displacement often fractures family units and erodes community networks, which traditionally provide essential social support and moral guidance. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR, 2021) notes that the breakdown of social cohesion among displaced communities can leave individuals, particularly youth, vulnerable to exploitation. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC, 2021) adds that the loss of social networks deprives IDPs of protective oversight, making them more susceptible to criminal influence. Similarly, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR, 2021) stresses that without community support systems, displaced persons are at heightened risk of exposure to criminal elements seeking to exploit their vulnerability.

A lack of educational opportunities may also contribute to their potential involvement in criminal activities (Seda and Guler, 2013; Lochner,2020). Displacement disrupts access to schooling, leaving many IDP children and youth without educational opportunities. According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF, 2021), displaced children face a higher risk of missing out on education, which hinders their development and increases their vulnerability to exploitation. The Global Education Cluster (2021) notes that the lack of educational access can lead to idleness among youth, making them prime targets for recruitment by criminal groups. In the same context, Duncan and Samy (2021) revealed that migrants lacking formal education are more likely to experience economic hardships in the host country. Limited education restricts their participation in the formal labor market, sometimes pushing them toward illicit activities for survival.

Health challenges, including limited access to healthcare services in displacement settings, further contribute to the grooming of IDPs into criminal activities. Displaced populations often face barriers to healthcare, resulting in untreated illnesses and psychological distress. The World Health Organization (WHO, 2021) reports that IDPs encounter significant health barriers, which

lead to deteriorating physical and mental well-being. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC, 2021) observes that poor health limits individuals' ability to engage in productive activities, which may increase their reliance on negative coping mechanisms, including criminal behavior. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA, 2021) also notes that inadequate healthcare exacerbates vulnerability among displaced populations, making them susceptible to exploitation.

The presence of armed groups in displacement areas also creates conditions that facilitate the grooming of IDPs into criminal activities. Many IDPs reside in regions where armed groups operate, exposing them to violence and coercion. The International Crisis Group (ICG, 2021) highlights that armed groups frequently exploit the vulnerability of IDPs, recruiting them into their ranks or coercing them into criminal activities. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC, 2021) reports that the presence of armed groups in displacement settings heightens criminality, as these groups engage in illicit activities and may coerce IDPs into participation. Furthermore, the Small Arms Survey (2021) indicates that the proliferation of weapons in displacement areas contributes to the militarization of IDP communities, increasing the likelihood of their involvement in criminal acts.

Legal and protection challenges that IDPs face also contribute to their involvement in criminal activities. Displaced individuals often lack essential legal documentation, which can hinder their access to services and legal protection. The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC, 2021) notes that the absence of legal identity among IDPs leads to marginalization and increases their susceptibility to exploitation. The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC, 2021) adds that legal barriers prevent IDPs from accessing justice and protection mechanisms, rendering them vulnerable to abuse and coercion. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, 2021) stresses that strengthening legal protections for IDPs is essential to prevent their exploitation and subsequent involvement in criminal activities.

Psychosocial stressors related to displacement also contribute to the grooming of IDPs into criminality. The trauma associated with displacement, including exposure to violence and loss, can have significant mental health impacts. The World Health Organization (WHO, 2021) reports that displaced populations exhibit higher rates of mental health disorders, including depression and anxiety, due to their experiences. The International Organization for Migration (IOM, 2021) notes that untreated mental health issues among IDPs can lead to negative coping mechanisms, such as substance abuse and criminal behavior. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR, 2021) underscores the importance of providing psychosocial support to IDPs to prevent their exploitation and involvement in criminal activities.

Finally, inadequate security and law enforcement in displacement settings create environments that facilitate the grooming of IDPs into criminal activities. Displacement frequently results in the breakdown of local law and order, enabling criminal elements to operate with impunity. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC, 2021), weak law enforcement in displacement areas increases criminality and the exploitation of vulnerable populations. The International Crisis Group (ICG, 2021) points out that the absence of security forces in these settings leaves IDPs unprotected and susceptible to coercion by criminal groups. Additionally, the Small Arms Survey (2021) indicates that the proliferation of weapons in these areas contributes to insecurity, raising the likelihood of IDPs' involvement in criminal activities.

Socio-economic Implications of Displacement and Criminality

Criminal activities within IDP camps in Nigeria have profound socio-economic implications, affecting both the displaced populations and the broader society. Numerous studies have highlighted the negative effect of crime on social and economic development of a society or community. Jackson and Gouseti (2015) noted that crime victims endure a range of emotional and psychological impacts, both immediate and prolonged. Crime affects everyone in some way, whether directly, or through its impact on friends and family members (Eidell and Ellis, 2010). Other consequences of crime can include rapid heart rate, stomach discomfort, physical injuries, shock, confusion, fear, and anger. Numerous researchers have explored the link between crime and economic growth, with many attempting to measure crime's direct and indirect societal costs (McCollister, French, & Fang, 2010).

The prevalence of crimes such as theft, assault, and exploitation within these camps exacerbates the already dire living conditions of IDPs, leading to increased poverty and vulnerability. For instance, in Benue State, IDPs face heightened hardships due to inadequate security and limited access to essential services, which are further strained by criminal activities within the camps (The ICIR, 2023). Similarly, reports indicate that IDPs in Borno State experience significant challenges due to insecurity and crime within the camps, impacting their overall well-being (Human Rights Watch, 2022). The economic impact extends beyond the camps, as resources allocated for security and crime prevention within IDP settlements divert funds from other critical areas of national development. The Nigerian government's efforts to manage and secure IDP camps require substantial financial investment, which could otherwise be directed towards infrastructure, education, and healthcare. This reallocation of resources hampers overall socio-economic growth and development

(International Crisis Group, 2021). Additionally, the presence of crime within IDP camps undermines the effectiveness of humanitarian aid and development programs. Non-governmental organizations and international agencies may be deterred from operating in high-risk areas, leading to a reduction in aid and support for displaced populations. This withdrawal not only affects the immediate well-being of IDPs but also impedes long-term recovery and reintegration efforts (Amnesty International, 2020).

The psychological toll of living in crime-ridden environments cannot be overlooked. IDPs, already traumatized by displacement, face additional stress and anxiety due to insecurity within the camps. This mental strain affects their ability to engage in productive activities, further limiting their economic opportunities and perpetuating a cycle of poverty and dependence (UNICEF, 2019). Criminal activities within IDP camps also strain relationships between displaced persons and host communities. Incidents of crime can lead to stigmatization and discrimination against IDPs, fostering social tensions and undermining social cohesion. Such divisions hinder collaborative efforts towards community development and economic integration, affecting the socio-economic fabric of the region (Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, 2020).

Furthermore, the prevalence of crime in IDP camps can lead to the emergence of informal economies centered around illicit activities. This development not only perpetuates criminal behavior but also disrupts formal economic systems, leading to loss of revenue and undermining lawful economic activities. The entrenchment of such informal economies poses significant challenges to governance and the rule of law (World Bank, 2018). Addressing the socio-economic implications of crime in IDP camps requires a multifaceted approach. Strengthening security measures within the camps, providing psychosocial support to residents, and fostering economic opportunities are essential steps. Additionally, promoting

social cohesion between IDPs and host communities can mitigate tensions and facilitate the successful reintegration of displaced persons into society. Comprehensive policies and sustained efforts are crucial to breaking the cycle of crime and poverty in IDP camps, thereby enhancing the overall socio-economic development of the nation (United Nations Development Programme, 2021).

Theoretical Framework
The Routine Activity Theory anchored this study. Routine Activity Theory (RAT), developed by criminologists Lawrence Cohen and Marcus Felson in 1979, posits that crime occurs when three elements intersect in time and space: a motivated offender, a suitable target, and the absence of a capable guardian. Unlike traditional criminological theories, RAT focuses on the environment and conditions surrounding crime rather than the personal characteristics of offenders (Cohen & Felson, 1979). RAT suggests that criminal opportunities arise as a byproduct of everyday routines. As people go about their daily lives, they may inadvertently increase their exposure to situations where these three elements converge. This theory has been widely applied to explain various crimes, from burglary to assault, especially in settings where societal norms and daily routines influence vulnerability and crime rates (Felson & Clarke, 1998).

Apparently, Routine Actually Theory is very crucial to the study of the threats of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and the grooming of potential criminals in Bauchi State, Northeast Nigeria; IDP camps often consist of overcrowded, resource-poor environments where many people experience severe socio-economic hardships. These camps become spaces where, in RAT terms, motivated offenders, suitable targets, and inadequate guardianship frequently overlap. First, the theory's "motivated offender" aspect is apparent, as young people in these camps, who may be impoverished and marginalized, are often vulnerable to recruitment into criminal activities or may even view crime as

a viable means of survival (Omole et al., 2015). Second, IDPs and humanitarian resources within the camps serve as suitable targets; those residing in the camps are frequently victims of theft, exploitation, and even violence, as they possess limited means of self-protection (UNHCR, 2018).

The absence of a capable guardian is a critical component in RAT and is highly relevant in Bauchi's IDP camps, which lack sufficient security infrastructure. The camps are often under-policed, and the sheer volume of residents stretches security personnel beyond capacity, creating minimal oversight and allowing crimes to occur unchecked (International Crisis Group, 2021). This lack of formal guardianship not only enables criminal activity within the camps but also facilitates the infiltration of external criminal networks targeting individuals for exploitation or grooming. Routine Activity Theory helps explain how these camps' living conditions and inadequate security measures foster an environment where crime is more likely, as displaced persons become both motivated offenders and potential targets due to their socio-economic vulnerabilities and the unprotected nature of their surroundings.

Despite its contributions to understanding crime in settings like IDP camps, Routine Activity Theory faces criticisms. Some researchers argue that RAT's focus on situational factors oversimplifies the complex socio-economic and psychological factors that potentially drive criminal behavior (Clarke & Felson, 2008). For example, while RAT helps identify immediate conditions that may increase crime risks in Bauchi's IDP camps, it does not delve into the deeper systemic issues, such as poverty, lack of education, and trauma resulting from displacement, which are particularly pronounced in the IDP population. RAT's situational approach may overlook why individuals in these settings become motivated offenders, focusing instead on the opportunity structures surrounding crime (Cohen & Felson, 1979). Critics suggest that a comprehensive understanding of crime in IDP

camps should incorporate broader socio-political factors and individual motivations, which are vital in explaining why displaced persons may turn to crime as a survival strategy. Notwithstanding, the theory provides us a suitable framework with which to look at the subject matter of this study.

Methodology

The study utilized a quantitative survey method to examine the threats of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and the grooming of potential criminals in Bauchi State, Northeast Nigeria. The study area for this research is Bauchi State, specifically focusing on IDP camps located within the state. Bauchi State lies between latitudes 9°30'N and 12°30'N and longitudes 8°45'E and 11°00'E in Northeast Nigeria. The region is characterized by a mix of savanna and semi-arid environments, with seasonal variations that influence agricultural and socio-economic activities. Bauchi State has faced significant displacement issues due to conflict in the Northeast, leading to the establishment of IDP camps within its borders. These camps accommodate diverse individuals from various socio-economic, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, who have been displaced primarily by the Boko Haram insurgency and inter-communal conflicts in surrounding areas. Bauchi State is divided into 20 local government areas, but this study focuses on camps within key urban and semi-urban LGAs, where IDP populations are more concentrated. This includes Bauchi LGA, which hosts the largest IDP camp, as well as Ningi, Toro, and Alkaleri LGAs, which have substantial displaced populations due to their proximity to conflict-affected areas.

The study adopts a multistage sampling technique to select respondents from IDP camps across these local government areas. The sampling process began by categorizing the state into its LGAs, followed by purposive selection of the four LGAs with the highest concentration of IDPs. Within each LGA, specific camps were selected for their accessibility and relevance to the study's focus on the threat of displacement and the potential grooming of post-criminal behaviors. Households within the camps were then randomly selected to ensure a representative sample of IDP residents. The data for this study were collected primarily from IDPs residing in camps within Bauchi State, and individuals associated with governmental and non-governmental agencies involved in camp management. The population of interest includes male and female IDPs aged eighteen and above, as well as officials from agencies such as the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), the Nigerian Red Cross Society, and other relevant NGOs.

For data collection, an initial 400 structured questionnaires were distributed across selected IDP camps and among personnel from relevant agencies. The questionnaires were designed to capture key variables including the conditions that facilitate the grooming of IDPs into criminal activities, and potential future socio-economic implications of displacement and criminality. The study focused on gathering quantitative data, ensuring each question was closed-ended to facilitate straightforward analysis. Following distribution, 350 completed questionnaires were retrieved; 30 were found invalid, while 320 valid responses were analyzed. The study also incorporated qualitative data collection using in-depth interview to complement the quantitative data. The quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistical methods, primarily focusing on simple percentages and frequency distribution to understand trends within the responses. The qualitative data from in-depth interview was analyzed using thematic analysis. This analysis provided insights into possible factors contributing to criminal behavior tendencies among IDPs and their future implications. This survey methodology ensures that the study's findings are both reliable and generalizable, providing a robust basis for understanding the complex dynamics at play in Bauchi State's IDP camps.

Results
Conditions Facilitating the Grooming of IDPs into Criminal Activities
Table 1: Rating of the conditions facilitating the grooming of IDPs into criminal activities

S/N	Conditions Facilitating the Grooming of IDPs into Criminal Activities	SA	A	U	D	SD	Mean	Std Dev.
1	I feel that unemployment in IDP camps makes residents more vulnerable to criminal exploitation.	143 (44.7%)	69 (21.6%)	43 (13.4%)	33 (10.3%)	32 (10.0%)	3.45	1.22
2	Limited access to income-generating opportunities in IDP camps encourages criminal involvement as a means of survival.	49 (15.3%)	65 (20.3%)	71 (22.2%)	59 (18.4%)	47 (14.7%)	2.57	1.35
3	The lack of educational facilities in IDP camps increases the likelihood of youth involvement in criminal activities.	55 (17.2%)	91 (28.4%)	63 (19.7%)	47 (14.7%)	41 (12.8%)	3.05	1.29
4	Health challenges and limited access to healthcare in IDP camps lead some residents to adopt criminal coping mechanisms.	61 (19.1%)	73 (22.8%)	67 (20.9%)	49 (15.3%)	43 (13.4%)	3.22	1.25
5	Psychosocial stress due to displacement increases the vulnerability of IDPs to criminal grooming.	93 (29.1%)	55 (17.2%)	85 (26.6%)	41 (12.8%)	46 (14.4%)	2.76	1.19
6	Inadequate security measures in and around IDP camps make residents easy targets for criminal recruitment.	69 (21.6%)	47 (14.7%)	57 (17.8%)	41 (12.8%)	97 (30.3%)	2.58	1.15

Researcher's analysis, 2024.

The data in Table 1 reveals respondents' perceptions on various conditions facilitating the grooming of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) into criminal activities. The distribution indicated that unemployment in IDP camps was a major factor, with a mean score of 3.45 and a standard deviation of 1.22. This suggests a strong level of agreement that unemployment increases IDPs' vulnerability to criminal exploitation, as 44.7% of respondents strongly agree and 21.6% agree with this statement. The high percentage of agreement indicates that the lack of employment opportunities is widely seen as a primary condition making IDPs susceptible to criminal influence. Also, the table showed that limited access to income-generating opportunities, with a mean of 2.57 and a standard deviation of 1.35, reflects moderate agreement that economic constraints contribute to criminal involvement among IDPs. While 15.3% of respondents strongly agree and 20.3% agree, 22.2% are undecided. The relatively high standard deviation suggests varied views, with some respondents perhaps seeing other factors as more critical than income constraints.

Furthermore, the analysis indicated that lack of educational facilities is perceived as another influential factor, as indicated by a mean score of 3.05 and a standard deviation of 1.29. Here, 28.4% agree and 17.2% strongly agree, suggesting a consensus that limited access to education makes youth more vulnerable to criminal activities. More so, health challenges and limited access to healthcare present another condition with agreement among respondents, shown by a mean of 3.22 and standard deviation of 1.25. Nearly 42% of respondents either agree or strongly agree that health limitations contribute to criminal coping mechanisms, reflecting a consensus on its role in facilitating grooming. This finding highlights the link between physical well-being and socio-economic stability, as inadequate healthcare access can exacerbate IDPs' vulnerabilities.

Moreover, it was shown in the distribution that psychosocial stress due to displacement has a mean score of 2.76 and a standard deviation of 1.19, indicating a moderate level of agreement among respondents. While 29.1% strongly agree, 26.6% are neutral, revealing a range of opinions on how stress impacts susceptibility to criminal grooming. Finally, the analysis revealed that inadequate security measures show a mean of 2.58 and a standard deviation of 1.15, suggesting it is considered less significant compared to other conditions. Whereas 21.6% strongly agree that poor security exposes IDPs to criminal recruitment, 30.3% strongly disagree, revealing polarized opinions on this factor. The lack of consensus on security measures may indicate varied experiences among respondents regarding the adequacy of security within different camps.

The above quantitative data above was buttressed by in-depth interview. One of the respondents has this to say;

> *"When we come here, we don't have work, and we don't got no way to make money. Some people, they come and say they give us money if we do small, small thing for them. Some of us just, we don't got choice, we join. No job, no food, so we just do it."*

This respondents argued that the lack of unemployment or job to make earns meet makes them easily susceptible to involvement in deviant behavior especially if such will give them the money they need to survive.

> *"We stay here long time, and nobody care about us. No school for children, no medicine when people sick. Some boys, they go to bad way because they say nobody help them, nobody look after them. They say they find their own way to live, even if it bad."*

This respondent contended that IDPs have been neglected, and the children are not provided with proper education and healthcare. Hence, with no one to provide assistance, they involve themselves in different activities to survive even if these activities may be bad.

Socio-economic Implications of Displacement and Criminality
Table 2: Rating of the Socio-economic Implications of Displacement and Criminality

S/N	Socio-economic implications of displacement and criminality	SA	A	U	D	SD	Mean	Std Dev.
1	Criminal activities in IDP camps worsen the economic conditions for displaced persons by reducing livelihood opportunities.	195 (61.0%)	81 (25.3%)	21 (6.6%)	15 (4.7%)	8 (2.5%)	3.68	1.02
2	The presence of crime in IDP camps deters organizations from providing humanitarian assistance, worsening living conditions.	149 (47.0%)	97 (30.3%)	31 (9.7%)	27 (8.4%)	11 (3.4%)	3.55	1.15
3	I believe crime in IDP camps contributes to increased poverty among residents by disrupting daily economic activities.	183 (57.2%)	87 (27.2%)	15 (4.7%)	19 (5.9%)	16 (5.0%)	3.72	1.08
4	Crime in IDP camps negatively affects the mental health of residents, reducing their ability to participate in economic activities.	155 (48.4%)	103 (32.2%)	27 (8.4%)	23 (7.2%)	12 (3.8%)	3.64	1.13
5	Criminal activities in IDP camps create social tensions between IDPs and surrounding host communities.	175 (54.7%)	81 (25.3%)	23 (7.2%)	17 (5.3%)	24 (7.5%)	3.67	1.06
6	In my opinion, criminal activities within IDP camps hinder overall economic development in the region by increasing government spending on security.	187 (58.4%)	89 (27.8%)	15 (4.7%)	13 (4.1%)	16 (5.0%)	3.71	1.04

Researcher's analysis, 2024.

The data in Table 2 reveals respondents' perceptions of the socio-economic impacts of displacement and criminality within Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps. The high mean scores across most items suggest a strong consensus that criminal activities in these camps have significant negative socio-economic consequences for both IDPs and the broader community. Firstly, the statement "Criminal activities in IDP camps worsen the economic conditions for displaced persons by reducing livelihood opportunities" has a mean score of 3.68 with a low standard deviation of 1.02, indicating a high level of agreement. A majority of respondents (61.0%) strongly agree, and 25.3% agree that criminality adversely impacts livelihood opportunities, thus worsening the economic conditions of IDPs.

Similarly, the distribution suggested that the presence of crime in IDP camps deters organizations from providing humanitarian assistance, worsening living conditions, with a mean of 3.55 and a standard deviation of 1.15. A combined 77.3% of respondents agree or strongly agree with this statement, highlighting the deterrent effect crime has on humanitarian support. This finding underscores how crime can create barriers to aid, indirectly worsening living conditions for IDPs by reducing access to external resources. The data also indicated that crime in IDP camps contributes to increased poverty among residents by disrupting daily economic activities, with a mean score of 3.72 and a standard deviation of 1.08, with 57.2% strongly agreeing and 27.2% agreeing. This strong agreement suggests that respondents see a direct link between criminal activities and rising poverty levels within the camps, as crime disrupts the economic activities that IDPs rely on for subsistence. The data also indicate a consensus that "Crime in IDP camps negatively affects the mental health of residents, reducing their ability to participate in economic activities," with a mean of 3.64 and a standard deviation of 1.13. 48.4% strongly agreed, and 32.2% agree, suggesting widespread recognition of the psychological

toll of living in crime-ridden environments. The stress and anxiety associated with insecurity can hinder residents' productivity and overall well-being, further limiting their economic participation.

Furthermore, the data revealed that criminal activities within IDP camps create social tensions between IDPs and surrounding host communities, with a mean of 3.67 and a standard deviation of 1.06. Majority (54.7%) strongly agree, indicating a strong perception that crime fosters social tensions. This finding points to the broader social impacts of crime, which can strain relationships between displaced individuals and local communities, potentially leading to stigmatization and decreased cooperation. Moreso, the data analysis showed that criminal activities within IDP camps hinder overall economic development in the region by increasing government spending on security, which is strongly affirmed, with a mean of 3.71 and a standard deviation of 1.04. A combined 86.2% of respondents agree or strongly agree, emphasizing the perception that crime leads to increased government expenditures on security rather than on developmental needs. This data suggests that respondents believe crime in IDP camps has far-reaching implications for regional economic growth, as resources are diverted to manage security threats instead of fostering sustainable development.

The above quantitative data presented was buttressed by in-depth interview, where one of the respondents posited:

> *"We see that our children don't go to school, and it means they no learn anything good for future. Maybe they grow up and also do crime because no better life for them. People in town also fear us because they think all us IDP people bad, even when we are not like that."*

This respondent opined that the lack of proper education for the children may lead them into criminal life, and that the relationship

between IDPs and host community is strained because of the perception that IDPs are bad persons.

> *"Because of all the crime, people say that business no good again in Bauchi. Some people don't open shop because they afraid of robber. It hard for everyone, we no have peace here, and even people in town feel like we bring problem to them."*

This respondent emphasized that the proliferation of crime has negatively affected businesses leading to several closure of shops.

Discussion of Findings
The study considered the conditions facilitating the grooming of IDPs into criminal activities and found that lack of employment opportunities is a significant factor that increases IDPs' vulnerability to criminal exploitation. This finding is consistent with the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC, 2021), which reports that displaced individuals often struggle to access income-generating activities, exacerbating economic hardships. Similarly, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, 2021) emphasizes that economic disenfranchisement among displaced populations enhances their susceptibility to recruitment by criminal networks, as they may resort to illicit activities as a survival mechanism.

The present study's observation that limited access to income-generating opportunities contributes to criminal involvement among IDPs also finds strong backing in the literature. The International Organization for Migration (IOM, 2023) notes that a lack of economic opportunities can foster negative coping mechanisms, such as involvement in criminal activities. Additionally, the study found that lack of educational facilities was another influential factor that may lead to criminal activities by IDPs. This finding is consistent with research by Seda and Guler (2013) and Lochner (2020), who argue that

displacement often disrupts schooling, leaving children and youth vulnerable to recruitment by criminal groups. Furthermore, UNICEF (2021) emphasizes that displaced children without access to education are more susceptible to exploitation, as education provides a foundation for developing protective skills and economic independence. The findings also highlighted health challenges and limited access to healthcare as factors that contribute to criminal coping mechanisms. Report from the World Health Organization (WHO, 2021) supports this, indicating that IDPs face significant barriers to healthcare, which often results in untreated illnesses and psychological distress. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC, 2021) and UNFPA (2021) observed that poor health limits productive engagement, increasing the risk of reliance on illicit activities. This supports the idea that inadequate healthcare access exacerbates IDPs' vulnerabilities, making them more susceptible to criminal influence, as indicated by the study findings.

The study further revealed that psychosocial stress due to displacement plays a significant role on the grooming of potential criminals in Bauchi state. WHO (2021) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM, 2021) have documented the high rates of mental health disorders among displaced populations resulting from exposure to violence and loss. This view is also reflected in the reports by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR, 2021), which underscores the importance of providing psychosocial support to prevent exploitation. The study noted that inadequate security measures were perceived with less significance but were still seen as relevant by some respondents. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC, 2021) and the International Crisis Group (ICG, 2021) reinforces this view, noting that weak law enforcement and the breakdown of local order in displacement areas allow criminal elements to exploit IDPs with impunity. The Small Arms Survey (2021) also highlights that the

proliferation of weapons in such areas increases insecurity, which can raise the risk of IDPs becoming involved in criminal activities.

This study showed that a significant majority of respondents perceive criminal activities as directly worsening socio-economic conditions by reducing livelihood opportunities. This view is supported by researchers like McCollister, French, and Fang (2010), noting that crime imposes both direct and indirect societal costs, often diminishing economic growth potential in affected communities. Additionally, the study highlighted that crime deters humanitarian organizations from providing necessary support to IDP camps, worsening living conditions. This is equally echoed in the reports by Amnesty International (2020) and the International Crisis Group (2021), both of which observe that the security risks in IDP settings discourage aid organizations from operating in these high-risk environments.

The study further revealed that crime contributes to increased poverty by disrupting daily economic activities among IDPs. This finding resonates with the reports by the International Crisis Group (2021) and Human Rights Watch (2022), which document how insecurity and criminal activities in camps hinder IDPs' ability to engage in stable, income-generating activities. When IDPs cannot reliably access livelihoods, the poverty cycle is intensified, leading to greater economic dependence and lower overall resilience. Additionally, the psychological effects of crime in IDP camps are seen to reduce participation in economic activities; a point reinforced by UNICEF (2019) and Jackson and Gouseti (2015), who emphasize that the emotional toll of crime can lead to long-lasting mental health impacts that further hinder productivity and economic engagement.

Furthermore, the study identified social tensions between IDPs and host communities as a significant outcome of criminal activity. This aligns with the work of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (2020),

which shows that crime-induced stigmatization and discrimination often hinder social cohesion and community integration efforts. Such tensions can disrupt community development initiatives, limiting opportunities for collaboration and mutual economic benefit. Lastly, the study underscores the perception that crime within IDP camps impedes broader economic development by necessitating increased government spending on security. This perspective resonates with findings from the World Bank (2018) and UNDP (2021), which observe that government funds are often diverted to address immediate security concerns in IDP areas, limiting resources available for development projects. This reallocation of funds constrains long-term regional growth, as resources are redirected away from infrastructure, education, and healthcare improvements that could benefit both IDPs and host communities.

Conclusion and Recommendations
This study highlighted the fact that Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in camps across the North-East region of Nigeria, particularly in Bauchi State, are confronted with complex socio-economic challenges which in turn create conditions instrumental to criminal grooming, coupled with alarming cycles of poverty and instability. The findings clearly demonstrated that factors such as unemployment, limited access to income-generating opportunities, inadequate education and healthcare, and psychosocial stress significantly heighten the vulnerability of IDPs to criminal exploitation. Furthermore, exposure to criminal activities within IDP camps has far-reaching socio-economic implications, not only worsening living conditions for displaced persons but also straining relationships with host communities and diverting government resources from essential development projects to security measures.

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations are proposed to

address the socio-economic challenges within IDP camps with a view to downscaling susceptibility to criminal grooming:

i. Given the significant role of unemployment in fostering vulnerability to criminal activities, it is recommended that both governmental and non-governmental organizations create employment programs tailored towards improving the conditions of IDPs. Initiatives such as skills training, small business grants, and community-based job creation can empower IDPs to achieve economic independence, reducing the appeal of illicit activities as a means of survival.

ii. The lack of educational facilities within IDP camps is a crucial factor contributing to youth involvement in criminal activities. To address this, organizations should prioritize establishing or supporting schools and vocational training centers within camps.

iii. The study shows that limited healthcare access exacerbates the challenges faced by IDPs, often leading to negative coping mechanisms. Government agencies and humanitarian organizations should prioritize providing mobile clinics, mental health support, and essential health services in camps. Improving healthcare can alleviate physical and psychological stress among residents, helping to break cycles of poverty and dependence on criminal activities for survival.

iv. Psychosocial stress is a significant factor that heightens vulnerability to criminal grooming among IDPs. Establishing mental health programs within IDP camps, including counseling, group therapy, and recreational activities, can help alleviate the psychological toll of displacement. Training IDP leaders in basic mental health support can also create a supportive environment,

fostering resilience against criminal influence.

v. Inadequate security within camps makes IDPs easy targets for criminal recruitment. Strengthening camp security through partnerships between local authorities and community-led initiatives can create safer environments. This includes regular security patrols, establishing checkpoints, and introducing community watch programs within camps to discourage criminal elements and protect residents.

vi. To reduce social tensions between IDPs and surrounding communities, outreach and integration programs should be implemented. Initiatives that promote shared economic opportunities, cultural exchange, and conflict resolution can help build positive relationships and reduce stigmatization.

References

Amnesty International. (2020). *Nigeria: Security forces failing to protect displaced people from Boko Haram attacks*. Retrieved from https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2020/02/ nigeria-security-forces-failing-to-protect-displaced-people-from-boko-haram-attacks/

Amina, B. Z. J., & Ibrahim, S. G. (2019). The plight of internally displaced persons in unofficial camps in the Federal Capital Territory of Nigeria, Abuja. *African Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities Research, 2*(3), 28-37.

Concern Worldwide. (2021). *Internally displaced persons (IDPs)*.

Durkheim, E. (1893). *The division of labor in society*. New York, NY: Free Press.

Duncan, H., & Samy, Y. (2021). Conclusion: Will Canada's immigration policy take an international turn? In Samy, Y., & Duncan, H. (Eds.), *International affairs and Canadian migration policy: Canada and international affairs* (pp. 247-260). Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-46754-8_12

Eidell, W., & Ellis, C. A. (2010). Impact of crime on victims. *National Victim Assistance Academy Track 1: Foundation-Level Training*, USA.

Global Education Cluster. (2021). *Education in emergencies and protracted crises*. Global Education Cluster.

Hagan, J. (2020). *Introduction to criminology: Theories, methods, and criminal behavior* (9th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Human Rights Watch. (2022). *Nigeria: Displaced people at risk as Borno State closes camps*. Retrieved from https://www. hrw.org/news/2022/11/02/nigeria-displaced-people-risk-borno-state-closes-camps

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre. (2020). *Nigeria: Country information*. Retrieved from https://www.internal-displacement.org/countries/nigeria

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre. (2021). *Impacts of displacement: The impacts of displacement linked with violence in Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria*.

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre. (2023). *2023 Global report on internal displacement: Internal displacement and food security*. Retrieved from https://api.internaldisplacement.org/sites/default/files/publications/documents/IDMC_GRID_2023_Global_Report_on_Internal_Displacement_LR.pdf

International Committee of the Red Cross. (2021). *Protected persons: Internally displaced persons*. Retrieved from https://www.icrc.org /en/law-and-policy/protected-persons-internally-displaced-persons

International Crisis Group. (2021). *Nigeria's discordant response to the Boko Haram insurgency*. Retrieved from https://www.crisisgroup.org/africa/west-africa/nigeria/278-nigerias-discordant-response-boko-haram-insurgency

International Crisis Group. (2021). *The shifting dynamics of internal displacement in Nigeria*. Retrieved from https://www.crisisgroup.org/

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. (2021). *Health in internal displacement contexts*. Retrieved from https://www.ifrc.org/

International Organization for Migration. (2021). *Mental health and psychosocial support in emergency and displacement settings*. Retrieved from https://www.iom.int/

International Organization for Migration. (2023). *Nigeria - National displacement profile 2023*. Retrieved from https://dtm.iom.int/reports/nigeria-national-displacement-profile-2023

Jackson, J., & Gouseti, I. (2015). Threatened by violence: Affective and cognitive reactions to violent victimization. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence, 31*(18). https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260515584336

Khouzam, A., & Verma, M. (2020). Internal displacement and COVID-19: Taking stock and looking forward. *Refugee Survey Quarterly, 39*(4), 591-601.

Lombroso, C. (1876). *Criminal man*. Duke University Press.

McCollister, K. E., French, M. T., & Fang, H. (2010). The cost of crime to society: New crime-specific estimates for policy and program evaluation. *HHS Public Access*. PMCID: PMC283584.

Mohammed, F. K. (2017). The causes and consequences of internal displacement in Nigeria and related governance challenges. *German Institute for International and Security Affairs*, Berlin.

Norwegian Refugee Council. (2021). *Legal challenges for IDPs: Access to documentation and justice*. Retrieved from https://www.nrc.no/

OIM, I. (2022). *Displacement tracking matrix*.

Olanrewaju, F. O., Olanrewaju, A., Omotoso, F., Alabi, J. O., Amoo, E., Loromeke, E., & Ajayi, L. A. (2019). Insurgency and the invisible displaced population in Nigeria: A situational analysis. *Sage Open, 9*(2), 2158244019846207.

Quinney, R. (1977). *Class, state, and crime: On the theory and practice of criminal justice*. New York, NY: Longman.

Salleh, M. A., Ahmad, A. A., & Jamil, S. (2018). Forced displacement and the plight of internally displaced persons in Northeast Nigeria. *Humanities and Social Science Research, 1*(1), p46-p46.

Siegel, L. J. (2019). *Criminology: The core* (7th ed.). Cengage Learning.

Small Arms Survey. (2021). *Armed violence and displacement*. Retrieved from https://www.smallarmssurvey.org/

The ICIR. (2023). *Nigeria is hard, but much worse for IDPs, PWDs in Benue state*. Retrieved from https://www.icirnigeria.org/nigeria-is-hard-but-much-worse-for-idps-pwds-in-benue-state/

UNICEF. (2019). *Nigeria: Children and women continue to bear brunt of conflict*. Retrieved from https://www.unicef.org/nigeria/press-releases/nigeria-children-and-women-continue-bear-brunt-conflict

United Nations Children's Fund. (2021). *Children on the move: Protecting internally displaced children*. Retrieved from https://www.unicef.org/

United Nations Development Programme. (2021). *Assessing the impact of displacement on IDPs and host communities in Northeast Nigeria*. Retrieved from https://data.undp.org/insights/impact-displacement-idps/NGA

United Nations Development Programme. (2021). *Impacts of displacement on IDPs and host communities*. Retrieved from https://www.undp.org/

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2021). *Internally displaced people*. Retrieved from https://www.unhcr.org/about-unhcr/who-we-protect/internally-displaced-people

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2023). *Global trends report 2023*. Retrieved from https://www.unhcr.org/global-trends-report-2023

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. (2021). *Internal displacement*. Retrieved from https://www.unocha.org/internal-displacement

U.S. Department of State. (2023). *2023 country reports on human rights practices: Nigeria*. Retrieved from https://www.state. gov/reports/2023-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/nigeria/

Williams, F. P., & McShane, M. D. (2018). *Criminological theory* (7th ed.). Routledge.

World Bank. (2018). *Nigeria: Fragility, conflict, and violence*. Retrieved from https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/nigeria/brief/nigeria-fragility-conflict-and-violence