

Nature and Pattern of Computer Education among Orphans in Orphanage Homes in Nigeria

¹Muhammad Haruna Rasheed, ²Zuwaira Haruna Rasheed & ³Muhammad Isah

¹Department of Computer Science,

^{2&3}Department of Arts and Social Sciences,

Waziri Umaru Federal Polytechnic, Birnin Kebbi

Abstract

The study examined Nature and Pattern of Computer Education among Orphans in orphanage homes in Nigeria. Orphans are children's that are badly affected as a result of natural disaster and manmade disaster. United States Agency for International Development, argued that, orphan's children have reduced in other countries such as Asian, and Latin American. However, the number of orphans have grown up in Nigeria due to number of factors such factors are crime, HIV AIDS poverty and other related factors The study highlighted the emerging challenges in the lack of proper computer technology that could be able to improve the innovative pattern of Nigerian orphanage homes which raises number of concern demanding effective and efficient transformations from the government, non-governmental organizations, shareholders, spiritual organizations individual and many more. The article, consulted several valid second hand information by identifying, accessing and explaining ways in which government should improve and imposed computer technology in transforming the lives of orphans in orphanage homes in Nigeria The findings, therefore, revealed that, the impossible actions by the government due to inappropriate concentration on the level of skills and innovation which has manufactured lack of computer skills among them Conclusion and recommendations are drawn to guild possible actions plans for sustainable build in orphanage home.

Keywords: *Education, Orphans, Orphanage, and Nigeria*

Corresponding Author: Muhammad Haruna Rasheed

Background to the Study

Orphans are children's that are badly affected as a result of natural disaster and manmade disaster. (United States Agency for International Development, 2008) argued that, orphans children have reduced in other countries such as Asian, and Latin American. However, the number of orphans have grown up in Sub-Sahara African (United National Children's Fund, 2006), noted that, in some African countries such as Utopian, has the largest number of orphans, according to UNCF, explained that, the rates of poverty, conflicts, and other natural disaster will continue to rise the in the number of orphans in the area. (United Nations Children Fund, 2007) noted that, the high rate of Orphans have continue to affects children, families, communities and the nations at large. The position of the researchers argued that, orphans in an orphanage homes suffered series of educational problems particularly computer training so as to become effective and to meet the contemporary challenges in Nigeria Atwine, 2005; Cluver et at. 2008, Killian and Durrhem, 2008; Makama et at 2002; Zhaoo et at 2007) argued that, when countries continued to lost their parents or loves once as a result of gear poverty, disease, or any other disaster both manmade and natural disaster, they furthered argued that, those children would be suffering from psychological problems such as lck of proper social welfare, stigmatization, lack of parental care, lack of community support and many more.

Increasingly, this paper would also demonstrate the provision of social welfare to orphans in Nigeria such social welfare includes provision of standard education through the application of digital methods of teaching, (Palicious & Sluschy, 2006).

International Social Security Association, 2005) noted that, in many countries in the world have developed the provision of both social and economic support, particularly social welfare needs. In Africa, social welfare programme was developed in 1950s and 1960s for white workers (Dixon, 1987) argued that, in those days social welfare was established to benefits only employers. The study would demonstrated the vital application of digital methods of learning in Nigerian orphanage homes, however, number of governmental agencies like UNICEF, safe the Children WHO and many more have made rich donations in the parts of their services in promoting standard education in orphanages homes in Nigeria.

Statement of the Problems

Nigeria is a rich country, inhabited by the poor and accounts for the highest percentage of orphans, with poor distributions of social welfare particularly in the area of modern teaching, to orphans. Orphanage homes in Nigeria have been neglected from poor distributions of social welfare due to perceived corruption that is digging in all of the orphanages in Nigeria. (Children on the Blink, 2004) argued that, Nigeria with the highest number of orphans worst 7. Million in 2003, The National Situation Assessment and Analysis on Orphans (2008), observed that, there is over 14 million orphans in the country, UNICEF Report 2007, noted that, out of 10.7 million of Nigerian children are orphans, which is associated with socio-cultural, political and economic factors. UNICEF 2007 further argued that, the care of orphans should be employ by the government and also their families or relatives so as to improve their wellbeing in the society. The burden of orphans in Nigeria has led to so many

problems, rising in the behavior and societal disunity, the changing pattern of orphans behavior which fundamentally risking the children life opportunities to go school, have good healthcare services, good growth and development, good nutrition and shelter. Similarly, if a child lost his parent either by accident, disease, conflict and any forms of natural or manmade phenomenon, a child begins to face a lot of problems such as fear, psychological problems, societal isolation and many more.

Similarly, the schools operate in the orphans homes where basically, ignored due to poor management and lack of qualified staffs to interacts with those orphans. In the area of family values orphans children may engage in deviant behavior, association with peer groups which in one way or the other may endanger his or her life. In the area of interactions those orphans' children may loss some vital means of interaction such as racism, prejudice, and others forms of discrimination. For example, Shetima, 2009; Aluaybea, 2009 Badamasiuy, 2009, argued that, only few consideration have been given to in relations to the conditions of orphans in Nigeria. UNICEF & UNAID, 2002, argued that, following the death of a patient either by sickness o any other courses, led children to become orphaned, which sometimes led the child into economic hardship, lack of love and care, withdrawal from school and increase number of abuse in the society.

Research Questions

The following are the research questions for the study:

1. What are the factors that led to the emergence of orphanage homes in Nigeria?
2. How would you describe the nature and social welfare provision to orphans?
3. What are those challenges which have been confronted in the provision of basic social welfare to orphans in Nigeria orphanage homes?
4. What are the recommendations to overcome the orphans' challenges?

Conceptual Clarifications

In 1948, WHO defined health as “a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease” Health could be considered in terms of a person's body structure and function and the presence or absence of disease or sings (health status), their symptoms and what they could and could not do i.e. the extent to which the condition affects the persons normal life (quality of life). The position of the researchers, argued that health is one of the fundamental mechanism that enhances individual physical, mental and social wellbeing which without it could transformed into negative physical, mental and social wellbeing. Education is necessary in orphanage homes; education is the process of facilitating learning, or the acquisition of knowledge, skills, values, beliefs and habits. And individual realizing its human potential and of becoming a subjective agent by actively exploring the material and social world, with the hope to become a responsible and useful member in the society. However, we can measure education in terms of the quality of teachers, structure and the environment.

The researchers see education as process through which a person's acquire knowledge, skills, attitudes, and morality so as to become a responsible member in human society, additionally,

the researchers, see computer as electronic devices that accept information, process information, store information and print out information's all of these are fundamental in transforming the educational standard of orphans in Nigeria. An orphan is a child under age 18 years who has lost one or both parents irrespective of the cause of death. The report, *Children on the Brink 2004* (UNAIDS, UNICEF and USAID, 2004) makes distinction among the following categories of orphans: Maternal orphans children under age 18 whose mothers have died; Paternal orphans -children under age 18 whose fathers have died; and Double orphans children under 18 whose mothers and fathers have died. The position of the researchers, noted that orphans also are not necessary those that lost his her parents rather those that engaged into unwanted pregnancy, and abandoned these children's and some parents who could not provide social welfare to their children they will decide to send their children to orphanage home, where they could enjoyed free education and free medical services.

Review of the Literature

Brief Historical Development of Orphanage Homes

An orphanage is a residential institution devoted to the care of orphan's children whose biological parents are deceased or otherwise unable or unwilling to take care of them. However, the used of institutionalized was fist established in the United State, later the formalization of orphanage home began to spread with formal administration format. Plato, (Laws, 927) says "orphans should be placed under the care of public guidance "in European countries. Albania, there are approximately, 10 small orphanages in Albania each one has only 12-40 children residing. The nature of social welfare was effective. In Bulgaria, the Bulgaria government has shown fundamental interest in the proper coordinating and strengthening of orphanage homes. In 2010 the Bulgaria has adopted a national strategic plan for the period of 2010-2025 so as to improve the living standard of those orphanages. The position of the researcher based on the argument on Plato, on orphans should be placed into public guidance, this accession could not be introduce in Nigeria due to poor patronage and weak governmental policy and programmes on orphans,. Orphans in Nigeria are facing serious socio-economic and political problems which manufactured some of them into street bagging and other unwanted behavior

In Hungary, with flows of over 7000 orphanages homes, has adopted policy on national strategy for strengthening the fundamental rights of those children living in the orphanage homes from 2007 and will run until 2032. Romania, the Roman pattern of administration to orphanage was to provide social welfare through educating and engaging them into agriculture, mining, skill acquisition programmes and others, which will flows the reduction of orphanage in the area. The researcher understanding and explanations in relations to all these countries and their pattern of social welfare to orphans homes was very effectives in the sense, policies and proper organization of the orphanages were conducted. In Sub-Sahara Africa, the majority of African orphanage especially in Sub-Sahara Africa appears to be funded by donors often from western nations rather hen domestic government.

Concepts of “Orphanage” in the 21st Century

A critical conceptual question encountered in this study was how to define the term “orphanage.” Historically, “orphanage” has been defined as “an institution or asylum for the care of orphans” or as “a public institution for the care of orphans.” These definitions, reflecting the historical nature of orphanages, were found to offer little assistance in making distinctions among the facilities that currently comprise the broad variety of institutional settings for children and youth in the United States. Terms such as “asylum” and “orphan” have largely fallen into disfavor and, therefore, could yield little guidance in developing a working contemporary definition of “orphanage.”

It became necessary for purposes of this study to develop a definition of “orphanage” that captured the elements of care that historically have characterized “orphanages” but which also reflected the contemporary realities of institutional care for children. With these principles in mind and with the guidance of leading child welfare advocates, Children's Rights adopted the following definition of “orphanage” for purposes of this study:

“An orphanage is a residential childcare facilities that is intended to care for children from the time of their admission until their maturity or emancipation, and which holds itself out as an acceptable or superior substitute for the children's families. It does not function as a family resource center to reunify families or work to help children live in alternate families; nor does it provide comprehensive professional treatment services for children to address their emotional, behavioral, or other problems”

Overview of Orphan and Vulnerable Children in Nigeria

The Nigeria Country Report (2004) defines an orphan as a child under the age of 18 years whose mother (maternal orphan), father (paternal orphan) or both (double orphan) are dead. A child is defined as a vulnerable when that child is most at risk of facing increased negative outcomes compared to the average child in the defined society. Negative outcomes include malnutrition, higher morbidity and mortality, low school attendance and completion rate and increased risk of abuse and psychosocial consequences. According to the National Plan of Action on Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Nigeria (2007), categories of children who could be vulnerable may not be exhaustive but for working purposes on a general note, a child is defined as a boy or girl below 18 years of age. An orphan on the other hand is a child (below the age of 18) who has lost one or both parents, irrespective of the cause of death. Those who have lost both parents are commonly referred to as “double orphaned”. The definition of vulnerability varies from society to society; therefore definitions are community specific. Nevertheless, the Federal Ministry of Social Development (2007) provides some key indicators determining children's vulnerability including children that are:

From poverty stricken homes; with inadequate access to educational, health and other social support; live in a household with terminally ill parents or care-giver(s); In line with the above, the National Action Plan of Nigeria enumerates specifically the list of children perceived as extremely vulnerable in communities to include: Children with physical and material disabilities, Neglected children, Child beggars, destitute children and scavengers, Children from broken homes, Internally displaced children, Children who have dropped out of school, Abandoned children. (Orphans Voluntary Care, 2007).

The argument of the researchers stated that, with the above explanations on the positions of O.V.C, 2007, on the characteristics of children's needed into orphanage homes are very vital. These argument have been captured in many literatures

Some Evidence Based of Orphanage Homes and their Computer Rooms in Nigeria



Fig. 1

Sources: 2019, Review Work

This is one of the orphanage homes in Nigeria, Cross River State, this shows how fundamental and well organized this orphan's home, because adequate shelter is one of the fundamental ingredient in the provision of social welfare. Another orphanage computer classroom, in Abuja, indicates that some orphanage schools engages orphans in the study of computer



Fig. 2

Sources: 2019, Review Work

Fig. 3



Sources: 2019, Review Work

Fig. 4



Sources: 2019, Review Work

This shows that not all orphans have access to computer rooms, here are reviewed evidence from Maiduguri, orphanage home where student does have chairs

The Role of Social Workers and other Agencies in the Provision of Standard Education to Orphans in Nigeria

Social work can be defined in relation to professional activities that involves in helping individuals, groups, or communities to enhance their capacity for social functioning and to improve the quality of life for every one by working toward the enhancement of the social and physical environments. Social workers believe in a society that takes care of its vulnerable members, in a world where children do not suffer from hunger, abuse, cold, illness and hardship. Social workers provide timely services to orphans and vulnerable children before dysfunction develops and include programs and activities such as parent education, nutrition education, family planning and premarital counseling. Non-governmental organizations are groups of non-profits agencies that work to enhance the social welfare to weaker ones, particularly, in the orphanage homes, such social welfare includes provision of standard education, water, healthcare services and many more.

Today, social workers provide a wide range of services to orphans and vulnerable children. Some of the roles social workers perform include; the role of broker of human services, the role of a teacher, counselor, an advocate, a case manager, facilitator, enabler and the role of an activist. Social worker as a broker links the orphans and vulnerable children to appropriate human services and other resources. The social worker is always placed in a position of being the professional person most likely to facilitate linkage between the orphans and vulnerable children and community resources. According to Sheafor (1994:17) as a human services broker, the social worker must be knowledgeable about the various services and programs available, maintain an up to date assessment of each one's strengths and limitations. Social worker use to be teachers teaching in various orphanage homes to enable them to be productive, as a teacher prepares the OVC with knowledge and skills necessary to prevent problems or enhance social functioning. The purpose of social work practice here is to help OVC change dysfunctional behaviour and learn effective patterns of social interaction. An effective service plan to orphans and vulnerable children is a part of social work practice because it is an agreement to guide the shared efforts of household members and the resources that are present to support them in achieving change around specific behaviours that contribute to conditions that make their children vulnerable (AIHA; 2008).

Social worker as a counselor or clinician helps the OVC to improve their social functioning by helping them better understand their attitudes and feelings, modify behaviours and learn to cope with problematic situations. The OVC's situations must be thoroughly understood and their motivation, capacities and opportunities for change assessed. Social worker as an advocate becomes the speaker for the OVC by presenting and arguing their cause. Advocacy is becoming an increasingly popular role of social workers. Social worker as an advocate plays an important role of reconciliation, liberation, and recovering of deprived properties and rights of people especially the disadvantaged groups such as the orphans and vulnerable children (Coulshed, 1998). Butrym (1976) claims that social work in common with other helping professions aims at promoting human welfare through the prevention and relief of suffering. Social workers participate in planning programs, identifying the needs of certain high risk groups such as OVC, and organize services for such problems as child abuse, rape and high risk infants. According to Brieland, Costin and Atherton (1980:272), social workers can play a preventive as well as therapeutic roles. Through an understanding of implications of various high-risk situations, the social work can aid the orphans and vulnerable children and their families to anticipate problems and cope more effectively.

The social worker's role is to emphasize the functioning capacities of the orphans, help reduce pressures, promote rehabilitation and prevent unnecessary dysfunction. Where there are social and emotional factors which complicate the OVC's physical adjustment, the social worker is part of the team which evaluates the OVC's ability to maintain themselves. Where recovery is impeded because of economic deprivation, inadequate housing, family tension or lack of understanding, the social worker will be called upon. Statistics revealed that there is a high level of deprivation and exclusion from basic health among the OVC in Nigeria and today, social workers play many roles in the provision of health care in a variety of settings to orphans and vulnerable children.

In-fact, social work in health care, particularly in working with the orphans and vulnerable children is one of the fastest growing occupational areas today. Social workers provide direct services to the families of orphans and vulnerable children living in poverty, advocate for programs and policies that improve the lives of the poor and reduce poverty at the community, state and federal levels, and develop and administer policies and programs that serve Nigeria's poor. In the opinion of Ambrosino et al (2005:288), the essential and important roles for social workers in health care settings include understanding how individuals' cultures shape their views about health and wellness, illness, health care providers and interventions, birth and death, their own roles in preventing and dealing with health-related concerns and helping to empower persons to communicate those views to others involved in their care. Social workers in health care settings provide a number of other functions to the orphans and vulnerable children (OVC).

Gaps in Literature that this Study Tends to Fill

Many studies have been conducted on orphanages, vulnerable children: their rights, privileges, development and future. Others examine the causes, conditions, and prospects of orphans and vulnerable children in Nigeria (example Shetima, 2009; Aluaigba, 2009; Badamasiuy, 2009; Unicef, 2006, FMWA, 2004 and others, they gave comprehensive explanation on social welfare of orphanage without understanding the fundamental values associated to Nigeria society. However, The Rapid Assessment Analysis Action Planning (RAAAP), 2004, etc.). Nevertheless, little attention has been paid in Nigeria to the dynamic relationships that led to the conditions of the lack of computer teaching methods in some orphanage homes in Nigeria, today the world is changing rapidly into digital era and orphanage homes are lacking computer teaching. Virtually, specifically and more importantly, collective societal response as intervention strategy for solidifying and cementing relationship, number of governmental organizations, no-governmental.

Organizations, spiritual organizations, stakeholders and individual have contributed positively in the development of education in orphanage homes. Yet orphanage homes suffered series of modern methods of teaching. And the fundamental problems associated with all of these are corruptions that hinder many orphanage homes in Nigeria. Has been neglected or silenced. This study seeks to fill the existing gaps as identified above. Although the plight of the OVC is acknowledge throughout Nigeria, it has not received adequate attention from researchers, social workers and human rights workers.

Theoretical framework: Frameworks for Responding to the Issues of Orphans

Human Security Analysis is adopted. MahbubulHaq first drew global attention to the concept of human security. Human security perspective is a combination of threats associated with war, genocide, and the displacement of populations (Human Security Research Group, 2010). At a minimum, human security means freedom from violence and from the fear of violence. It is people centered, focusing on the safety and protection of individuals, communities, and their global environment (Human Security Policy Briefing, 2011).

United Nations Development Programmes (UNDP) report conceptualized human security as providing safety for the people from hunger, diseases, oppression and other chronic threats as well as protecting them from sudden and hurtful disruptions in the patterns of daily life (Shiro, 2007). The emergence of the human security approach as an area of developmental and intellectual discussion was the product of a convergence of various complex factors. This therefore challenged the traditional dominance of state-centric paradigm of security. Human security is an emerging paradigm for understanding global vulnerabilities whose proponents challenge the traditional notion of national security by arguing that the proper referent for security should be the individual rather than the state.

There are two major schools of thought that attempted to explicate the best practice that could guarantee human security. They are: "Freedom from Fear Approach" and "Freedom from Want Approach." These approaches clearly center on what threats individuals should be protected from and over the appropriate mechanisms for responding to these threats. Freedom from fear seeks to limit the practice of Human Security to protecting individuals from violent conflicts while recognizing that these violent threats are strongly associated with poverty, lack of state capacity and other forms of inequities. This approach however argues that limiting the focus to violence is a realistic and manageable approach towards human security. According to this approach, emergency assistance, conflict prevention and resolution, peace-building are prerequisite to human security. Freedom from want on its own point of argument advocates a holistic approach in achieving human security and argues that the threat agenda should be broadened to include hunger, disease and natural disasters because they are inseparable concepts in addressing the root of human insecurity (UNDP, 1994) and they kill far more people than war, genocide and terrorism combined (Tadjbakhsh, 2007).

"Freedom from Fear", it expands the focus beyond violence with emphasis on development and security goals. Though these approaches to human security may appear to be opposites, they are complementary to each other rather than contradictory. After all, each of them emphasizes the security of individuals in society. In fact, the analytical strength of this approach is based on its ability to situate the people at the heart of security. This therefore means that the welfare of the people should be paramount. In other words, the physical security of people as well as the socio-economic wellbeing of the people should be prioritized by the state. That is why human security approaches ask, Stabilization for whom and for what purpose? The Responsibility to Protect (doctrine details each state's responsibility to protect its population from genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing, mass atrocities (Human Security Policy Briefing, 2011).

Accordingly, if the State is unable to protect its population, the international community has a responsibility to help build state capacity for early-warning, mediating conflicts, security sector reform, and many other actions. In the face of violent attacks against the people, and the state does not have the capacity to handle the situation alone, and refuses to seek foreign assistance due to perhaps national pride and myth of indivisibility of sovereignty, the human rights of the people would continue to be violated. In this situation, human security, social cohesion, and national integration may be elusive. Increasingly, the position of the

researchers, noted that education is one of the bedrock of development in any society, therefore, modern educational through the application of computer will be important in all orphanage homes in Nigeria. However, the linkages between freedom from fear and free from want, what the orphans want most is the applications of computer teaching in other to meet the demands of the current challenges and at the same time to improved their socio-economic and political status.

Conclusion

Computer application and teaching in orphanage homes is one of the vital tools that will improve the economic benefits of orphans and to become self-reliance. However, orphanage homes suffered series of traditional methods of teaching some could not have even classrooms, where they could acquire knowledge and other skills. Similarly, computer is very significant in the promotion of knowledge among orphans. There is need for government and other bodies to contribute in establishment of computer teaching in Nigeria orphanage homes.

Recommendations

1. Government should improve computer studies and make it practical to students in orphanage homes, so as to enhance their skills.
2. Stakeholders, should assist in the transformation of modern educational methods of teaching that is computer applications in other to meet the current demands
3. Non-governmental organization and charity organizations should help in recruiting teachers that are capable in teaching computer studies both theory and practical. In other to assist orphans.
4. Social workers, shall also play a very rich role in engaging into those camps, making sacrifices teaching, caring, advice and other important life improvement

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