

EFFECTS OF MIGRATION ON MIGRANT FAMILIES IN BENIN CITY

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**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY, FACULTY OF
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ANTHROPOLOGY**

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CERTIFICATION

We certify that this project was carried out by **OZEMOYA VERA OMOYEME** with the matriculation number of **SSC1809977** in the Department of Sociology And Anthropology, Faculty Of Social Science, University Of Benin

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this project to God Almighty my creator. He has been the source of my wisdom, knowledge and understanding.

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A study of this nature would not have been possible without the grace of God upon my life, so I wish to express my profound gratitude to the Almighty God. I am deeply indebted to my wonderful parents. And also to all my beautiful family. My Mum and Dad Mr Saturday Ozemoya and Mrs blessing Ugbogbo. May God continue to protect and keep you all. Amen.

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ABSTRACT

Migration is an increasingly familiar experience in today's society. Disparities in economic development have resulted in the emergence of uneven and rapid urbanization and industrialization across the world, making migration a diverse and complex phenomenon. Migration and single-parenting are common features of third world country like Nigeria. For many decades Africans have sought employment abroad due to high unemployment rates and economic hardships. The motivation for this research, therefore, rested on the potentially significant number of children affected by parental migration. therefore, this research study aims to examine effects of migration on migrant families in Benin city. The research design for this study is the descriptive survey research design. The study was conducted in Benin City with a population of 899,626. The target population comprised market and women association, etc all in Benin Metropolis. Therefore, a sample size of 400 respondents was gathered for the investigation. The study made use of the semi structured questionnaire in soliciting response from the respondents. This work studies the effects of migration on migrant families in Benin. It explains the impact of migration on families, and households of migrant spouse. Also, the study found tthat parental migration has a negative impact on school attendance for children left behind. There is considerable increase in inflows of migrant remittances to Nigeria and these remittances have not only improved household standard of living but have become an important source of income for consumption smoothing in Nigeria recommendations were also made aimed at understanding the effect of migration on migrant families.

Keywords: Migrants, *Remittances*, *Return Migration*, *Migrant Single Mothers*, *Migrant Families*

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Migration is an increasingly familiar experience in today's society. Disparities in economic development have resulted in the emergence of uneven and rapid urbanization and industrialization across the world, making migration a diverse and complex phenomenon. (Bariagaber, 2014). As a result, a substantial number of workers have opted to move in pursuit of better work opportunities from underdeveloped to developed countries. Hence, the world has seen increasingly large flows of migrants from the Global South to the Global North for better living conditions (Adserà & Tienda, 2012). The phrase Global South tends to be broadly used to refer to regions of Africa, Latin America, and developing Asia, including the Middle East. The term Global North encompasses regions of North America, Western Europe, and developed parts of East Asia (Confraria et al., 2017).

Contemporary international migration has received considerable critical attention because it presents new challenges in behavioral pattern among partners in relationship. All cultures aim for healthy union among its individual couples, however, immigrant partners are often faced with paradigm shift in ways through which such behavioral balance is struck among partners (Nesteruk & Marks, 2011).

The term 'migrant' is defined by the United Nations (2019) as 'someone who changes his or her country of usual residence, irrespective of the reason for migration or legal status'. Thus, they represent a highly heterogeneous population. The most widely held perception about migration is that poverty is the driving force behind vast numbers of people crossing national borders in looking for a

better life since developing countries are among the top labor-sending and remittance-receiving countries demonstrate this argument (Altschuler, J. (2013). Family members are forced to emigrate to ensure the family's financial security and migration are often used as a domestic way of coping (Bergset, K. (2017). The reduction of poverty is one of the most important benefits of migration and, as a result, returns, and migrants primarily pay money to support the people they have left behind (Eurostat. (2017). These remittances are an example of a domestic strategy to supplement the family's income and provide additional funds for continuing needs.

Migration and single- parenting are common features of third world country like Nigeria. For many decades Africans have sought employment abroad due to high unemployment rates and economic hardships (Bergset, K. (2017).

It seems that parents who migrate transnationally and leave children behind provide reasons for their actions for the sake of families and children left behind. The household and family systems change when responsibilities are transferred and rearranged and the current duties of families at home are altered to solve problems that as a result of the migrated parent(s) (Hugo, 2002; Parrenas, 2005). Most parents try to maintain their parental status regardless of their physical isolation by redefining traditional notions of parenting in new and different ways of inventing new notions about what it implies to parent or parents a child from afar.

1.2 Statement of problem

The parameters of migration are changing in the current times, where a highly mobile population is taking advantage of the free market and border mobility within Europe (Ramasawmy, 2013:13). The new technologies and faster travel nets influence the way cultural assimilation is

understood, creating very international cities and affecting the views of the migrants on the existence of national borders (Silverstein, 2005:376).

In many migrant-sending countries, different research has been conducted. For example, research on 253 children whose parents migrated also indicated the presence of significantly higher emotional and behavioral problems among those left behind compared to the other groups (Senaratna et al., 2011). Regarding caregiving, research findings mainly on grandmothers, relatives, and non-relatives, showed that grandparent's care for LBC is found to be better to provide the appropriate care as compared to the other caregiver types (Moran-Taylor 2008; Yarris, 2012; Dankyi, 2014; Dreby, 2006). In relation to this, a situation on Mexican LBC revealed that due to parental migration children who were taking care of themselves were found to be facing different problems compared to other left-behind children (LBC) (Lahaie et al., 2009). While some findings that help to intervene in youth migrants in Ethiopia have been identified to reduce the problems (Habtamu et al., 2021), support and frameworks on the challenges of left-behind children have not yet been addressed in Southern Wollo.

In the case of Ethiopia, where labor migration is a common practice, studies focusing on left-behind children and families are scant. The setting, South Wollo, is generally one of the areas where labor migration to the Gulf States is high. Due to several reasons such as poverty, social networking, and accessibility to illegal routes, the area is likely to have high numbers of migrants to the Gulf States, particularly to Saudi Arabia. According to Dessie Town Labor and Social Affairs Bureau, about 4,183 migrants migrated to the Middle East from 2010 up to 2014, and from these 3,235 migrants migrated to Saudi Arabia and the remaining 948 migrants went to Kuwait (Dessie Town Labor and Social Affairs Bureau [DTLSAB], 2014).

Personal observations also confirmed that there are many children left behind in South Wollo due to parental migration. It has been also observed that teachers and community people describe these children as truants who rely on remittances and do not pay attention to schooling. On the other hand, migrating parents do send remittances to improve the living conditions of left-behind families and the schooling of children. In the study area of Southern Wollo where there is high parental migration, there is a dearth of information on the behavioral outcome and schooling of children who are left behind.

The motivation for this research, therefore, rested on the potentially significant number of children affected by parental migration. Therefore, this research study aims to answer the following research questions.

1.3 Research Objectives

The general objectives of this research work are to examine the effect of international migration on behavioral patterns of single parents in Benin City. While the specific objectives are as follows:

1. To examine the effects of migration on marital stability of migrant families in Benin City.
2. To determine the effects of migration on parenting styles among migrant families in Benin City
3. To evaluate the effects of migration on the standard of living of migrant families in Benin City.
4. To what are the causative agents responsible for international migration among parents

1.4 Research questions

1. What are the effects of migration on marital stability of migrant families in Benin City.
2. What are the effects of migration on parenting styles among migrant families in Benin City
3. What are the effects of migration on the standard of living of migrant families in Benin City.
4. What are the causative agents responsible for international migration among parents

1.5 Significance of the Study

This study is important in that it sought to address issues related to the effect of international migration on behavioral patterns of single parents in Benin City. Specifically, not much research has been done on international migration on behavioral patterns of single parents in Benin City. There is a fair amount of literature addressing the impact of parental migration on. There is also much research on adolescent adjustment problems when migrants reunite with parents in their adopted countries. But the literature which addresses the international migration on behavioral patterns of single parents are still is significantly limited.

It is important to investigate this issue because unlike couples living together, when one couple migrates, the other one is left to adjust to living alone with the responsibility of the family. Thus triggering a change in his/her behavior in order to adjust to the new norm. The research findings on the previous studies earlier highlighted may not be generalizable to be applicable to this particular research since for adolescents from single-parent homes the experience of living without a parent is different from that of couples living apart owing from international migration. Also, the study investigates the factors which contributes to negative or positive experiences of single parents. This study will add to the body of knowledge with regard to the effect of international migration on behavioral patterns of single parents in Benin City, this study will also

investigate the relationship between international migration and the behavioral patterns of single parents.

1.6 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Migrant single mothers: Migrant single parenting were defined as single parenting who are living abroad. For the purpose of this study migrant single parenting were defined as single parenting who had been living abroad for at least six months.

Extended family: Extended family was defined as blood relatives of adolescents other than the immediate family who are actively involved in caring for and supporting.

Transnational family: The transnational family was defined as extended family members who reside in other countries but are mutually supportive of, and are in constant contact with relatives.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

The review of related literature will be discussed in this chapter.. As a result of this, a lot of research works have been carried out relating to this topic. Some of the various research works relevant to this study will be carefully reviewed and recorded in this chapter. In view of this, related materials have been reviewed under the following sub-headings

2.1 Conceptual review

Nigeria has had a major role in both intra-African and international migration dating back to the pre-colonial period, when migration was associated with the slave trade and warfare. In the colonial era, Nigerians' international migration was mostly driven by the quest for labour opportunities and higher education in the United Kingdom, which was strengthened by Nigeria's colonial ties to Britain (IOM, 2017). During the post-colonial period, the pursuit of higher education and economic reasons have also acted as drivers of Nigerian international migration to countries in the Global North. Since the 1990s, economic decline and political repression has pushed Nigerians to migrate, mostly to countries like the United Kingdom, South Africa, Spain, the United States and Italy (De Haas, 2008). Italy, Spain and Ireland were the dominant destination countries for most Nigerian migrants in the 1990s. However, increasingly restrictive immigration policies in Europe have altered the regular migratory flow, driving most low-skilled

migrants to look for alternative migratory routes to Europe (Adeniyi, 2019). The twenty-first century has witnessed an increase in irregular migration from Nigeria to countries in the Global North.

Ango et al. (2014) reported that Nigeria has witnessed a significant increase in irregular emigration due to factors such as poverty, civil unrest, ecological issues and the lack of sustainable livelihoods. In essence, the need to improve the socio-economic security of one's family in Nigeria leads to irregular migration to Europe and even drives families to decide to sacrifice family members and send them abroad. Against this background, the impact of forced migration on families left behind in Nigeria is a pertinent issue that needs scholarly attention. While studies exist on the socio-economic impact of international migration on Nigeria and Benin City, especially in the form of remittances (Olowa et al., 2013; Odorige, 2016; Ndisika & Esin, 2019; Ndisika & Dawodu, 2019; Yeates & Owusu-Sekyere, 2019), less is known about the implications of forced separation for the families left behind (Haagsman et al., 2015; Mazzucato et al., 2015; Oyebamiji & Asuelime, 2018).

Benin City was chosen as the context for this research because it represents one of the largest hubs of irregular emigration and remittance receipts in Nigeria (Adeniyi, 2019). Benin City is located in southern Nigeria. It is the capital of Edo State and heavily populated by various ethnic groups, particularly the Bini and Esan. The region is widely known for intraregional and international migration dating back to the 1980s, when Italians established businesses in the region. Marriages between Italian businessmen and Bini women also fostered international migration in the region when these women moved to Italy and began conducting business in the textile, leather and jewellery industries. These women also brought other Bini women to work in Italy because of the high demand for low-skilled labour in the agricultural sector (Osezua, 2011).

The collapse of the Nigerian economy during the end of the 1980s due to sinking oil prices led to the loss of businesses, and many of the Bini women in Italy turned to prostitution to survive. They also began recruiting friends and family members from home, who saw the wealth amassed by these women as motivating factors for them to migrate to Italy.

With its long history of international migration successes and organized network of human traffickers and smugglers, Benin City became one of the most trafficked-through destinations in Nigeria, with most migrants believing they would be able to find smugglers to get them to Europe once they made their way to Benin City (Adeniyi, 2019). Although Benin City is relatively developed compared to other cities in Nigeria, it has also witnessed rising levels of poverty, with over 80% of residents living below the poverty line (Awolabiet al., 2014). A large majority of the youths in Benin City survive by doing menial jobs, working in the private sector for little pay, or owning small- and medium-scale enterprises, including hairdressing, fashion design and petty trading. Due to this intense economic insecurity and poverty, most families are under pressure and see the migration of one or more of their family members as a way out of their current level of poverty. Traditionally, it was Bini men who usually engaged in international migration, leaving behind their spouse or spouses and children and sending them benefits in the form of remittances; in some cases, the men established themselves financially to pave the way for eventual family reunification (Okojie et al., 2003). The 1980s, however, saw a shift in the pattern of migration as women began taking the lead in initiating international migration, leaving their children in the care of their parents, their husbands or other extended family members, and sending remittances (Osezua, 2011; Odorige, 2016).

Single or unaccompanied adolescent migrants also leave their parents behind in the search for sustained economic livelihoods and an improved standard of living for the families they leave

behind (United Nations Development Programme, 2019). This chapter focuses on the experiences and perspectives of the families left behind in Benin City. It discusses the impact of the remittances sent by migrants in the Global North on the economic security and social status of family members in Benin City. In addition, it examines the impact of separation on migrants' relationships with their families. The next section offers a brief background of the previous research that underpins the chapter. This will be followed by a short methodological discussion and two sections that provide the findings of the research: Section 6.4 discusses how irregular migration impacts the economic security of families in Benin City, and Sect. 6.5 analyses the positive and negative social impacts of family separation.

2.3 Migration and Economic (In)security for families

Remittances sent by migrants constitute a major source of income for people in Benin City, and a large number of households there are dependent on remittances received from their families in the Global North (Osezua, 2011). A large majority of 6 For the Greater Good: The Economic and Social Impacts of Irregular Migration these remittances are used by the family members left behind to take care of their daily needs. Apart from the economic benefits, remittances also affect migrants' patterns of family interactions, obligations, kinship networks and expectations in the households left behind because families often attach meaning to remittances and construct values from them (Akanle & Adesina, 2017). The role that remittances play in providing economic security for families has been well documented (Akanle et al., 2021; Singh, 2017; Olowa et al., 2013; Odorige, 2016). Remittances serve as a basic means of livelihood for family members left behind, as they are often used to establish and support private businesses and self-employment (Oyebamiji & Asuelime, 2018; Ikuteyijo, 2020; Ndisika & Dawodu, 2019).

Remittances in the form of cash or goods also constitute a basic source of income that covers the family's necessities of food, clothing and shelter and may allow them to acquire land and property (Odorige, 2016; Ndisika& Dawodu, 2019). Educational advancement is another critical use of remittances. When used to support the academic pursuits of both younger and older siblings, remittances empower young family members with the skills that are necessary to uplift the family left behind and establish them in their local society (Akanle et al., 2021). Moreover, remittances are powerful enough to realign social statuses and priorities in local communities, as seen in the enhanced power of female migrants in decision-making (Osezua, 2011; Ikuomola, 2015). Remittances also serve as a way for the migrant to express love and one's duty to the advancement of the family unit (Singh, 2017).

The act of sending money home indicates that the migrant prioritizes the welfare of the family members left behind. Unsurprisingly, the lure of remittances fuels more migration, as other families witness the transformative power of remittances and plan similar migration journeys (Odorige, 2016; Adeniyi, 2019). In Nigeria, the family plays a pivotal role in the development of an individual. The family is a close unit of kinsmen, related by blood, who care deeply for each other and look out for each other's wellbeing (Osezua, 2011). Like the immediate family, the extended family also plays an active role in care-giving and decisionmaking, such that one is also expected to take care of them (Bettmann et al., 2016; Adeniyi, 2019). This expanded concept of family and one's duty to uplift family members comes forth strongly as regards irregular migration. The family is part and parcel of the decision-making process, providing support during the actual migration and taking care of the loved ones left behind by the migrant (Carter, 2011). Irregular migration brings tangible benefits for the family left behind, but comes at great cost to intimate relationships. On the one hand, the migrant's sojourn brings remittances that

uplift the entire family. In light of the familial duty of each member of the family, the migrant is encouraged to make the torturous irregular journey to Europe to produce gains for the family (Adeniyi, 2019; Akanle et al., 2021; Osezua, 2011).

On the other hand, the strain of separation leads to broken family ties, with some marriages breaking down completely and with children left behind more likely to become social deviants due to the absence of parental care (Ikuomola, 2015; Ikuteyijo, 2020). Intimate relationships such as marriages suffer, as prolonged absence increases the likelihood of both the migrant and his or her spouse seeking A. O. Akhigbe and E. S. Effevottu 99 intimacy from others or even maintaining a state of ‘transnational polygyny’, that is, being married both abroad and at home (Fleischer, 2011). This trade-off between uplifting the family and maintaining strong family relationships is one that every irregular migrant from Nigeria is required to make in light of the worsening economic situation in the country (Osezua, 2011; Ikuteyijo, 2020). Existing literature discusses the importance of remittances, the role of the family in ensuring the success of migrants, and the breakdown of relationships due to family separation. There is a gap, however, in determining how these considerations play out in countries of origin, particularly from the perspective of the families left behind. This chapter fills this gap by determining how the absence of irregular migrants caters to the economic security of the family left behind in Benin City while simultaneously emphasizing the impact of this absence on migrants’ relationships with family members.

Migration and migrant family Remittances

When people migrate for work, the groups that are most likely to be left behind are women, children, and the elderly. Two primary mechanisms associated with migration can affect those

staying behind. Most important, the migration of a family member usually brings additional income to the family through remittances and can therefore ease the budget constraint for family members in the home country or region. In particular, the income effect can enable larger investments in education and health care, create new opportunities to invest in businesses, and raise the reservation wage (the lowest wage at which a person is willing to accept a job) of family members who remain behind. Yet migration also entails the absence of an economically active family member and the loss of that member's time inputs to both market and household production. In particular, this absence may translate into disrupted personal care for dependent family members, including children and the elderly, and a greater burden of responsibility for work and household chores among family members. The forgone market and household production (including both labor force participation and care) may be substantial and may outweigh the gains from remittances. Since these two mechanisms work in opposite directions, the impact of migration on family members left behind can only be determined empirically. Another dimension to consider when assessing the relationship between migration and the family left behind is the duration of migration.

The expected impact is ambiguous in both the short term and the long term. In the short term, migration may have a disruptive effect on the family because of reduced inputs to market and household production. As migration is costly and does not necessarily lead to immediate employment at destination, it may even translate into reduced income for the family that has to finance the migrant. In the long term, the forgone market and household production may be compensated for by a reallocation of labor among family members who stay behind. Yet, whether financial transfers rise or fall with the duration of migration is uncertain. Long-term migrants are likely to earn a higher income and as a consequence may be able to afford to send

larger remittances. However, their commitment to their family may weaken over time, leading to reduced financial transfers. Thus the impact of migration on the family in the home country or community is complex, multi-channeled, and context-dependent. It ultimately depends on who migrates and who is left behind (gender and age are key dimensions here) and on the duration of migration. Given the complexity of the relationship, empirical studies are needed to clarify a net impact that is ambiguous a priori.

2.4 Effects of Migration On Families

Education

It is now well accepted that international migration of a parent or family member can have both positive and negative effects on non-migrant children in the home country. First, there is the possibility that remittances sent from abroad will relax the household budget constraint and result in an increase in child schooling, child health, and a corresponding decrease in child labor. Several studies find evidence supporting this hypothesis (Cox-Edwards and Ureta, 2003; Alcaraz et al., 2012; Yang, 2008). Yet researchers have also recognized that parental migration inherently involves parental absence from the home that can have a negative impact on child outcomes which may outweigh the positive effect of remittances.

Consistent with this, Giannelli and Mangiavacchi (2010) find that parental migration has a negative impact on school attendance for children left behind in Albania. Since men are the ones to migrate in most contexts, much of the literature has focused on the father's contributions to the family and connects the resulting loss when he becomes a migrant to the literature on father absence more broadly (Lahaie et al., 2009; Antman, 2011c).² Zoller Booth (1995) stresses the importance of a father's role as disciplinarian and figurehead when interpreting the detrimental

effects of paternal labor migration on the school readiness of children in Swaziland. Lahaie et al. (2009) find that the migration of a caregiver-spouse is significantly associated with academic, behavioral and emotional problems for children left behind in Mexico.

Another possibility often explored in the literature is that the effects may differ based on age and gender of the child. Meyerhoefer and Chen (2011) find that parental labor migration in China is associated with a significant lag in the educational progress of girls; a finding they argue is due to shifting girls' time allocation toward home production. Similarly, McKenzie and Rapoport (2011) find a negative effect of migration on schooling of older children left behind in Mexico and match this behavior to increased housework for girls and migration for boys. While Acosta (2011) finds evidence that remittances result in a fall in child wage labor in El Salvador, girls benefit from an increase in schooling while boys do not.

Some studies have also tried to distinguish effects based on the gender of the migrant parent, but since the extent of female migrants is limited in many countries, few studies have generated meaningful results. One exception is Cortes (2010) who is able to compare children of migrant fathers with children of migrant mothers in the Philippines. She finds that maternal migration has an overall negative effect on children's education and argues that maternal absence is more detrimental than paternal absence. Similarly, Jampaklay (2006) finds that long-term maternal absence negatively affects children's education in Thailand, while paternal absence does not.

Another important channel to consider is the possibility that one parent's international migration may also result in a change in bargaining power among household decision-makers if one parent travels abroad while the other remains in the source country. If parents have different preferences over goods, this might also affect the allocation of resources and thus outcomes for children.

This type of mechanism would be in accordance with the evidence presented in Antman (2011a) showing that families with migrant household heads spend a smaller fraction of resources on boys relative to girls in both clothing and education. Antman (2010a) exploits longitudinal data to investigate whether this relationship is causal and finds support for the idea that when a household head migrates, families spend more on girls relative to boys, and once the household head returns, the reverse is true. This is consistent with a shift in bargaining power toward women when men migrate and a shift back toward men once they have returned to the household. While this result may appear surprising if one expects boys to be relatively advantaged in the household, these findings make sense in light of the growing evidence that increasing women's bargaining power results in improvements in girls' health outcomes and not boys (Thomas, 2014; Duflo, 2013).

In the family context, it may be that parental migration imparts particularly specialized information about the returns to schooling owing to the common background of parent and child and the parent's particular migration experience. Whether this type of effect might operate in practice would in principle depend on the relative returns to education in the home and destination countries, taking into account the fact that educational attainment is not perfectly translatable across borders. Thus, this would likely depend on the specific home country-source country pairing and could certainly impart a disincentive to invest in child schooling (Gibson and McKenzie, 2011).

As illustrated above, studies have found both positive and negative effects of migration on schooling and educational outcomes of children left behind. Those that find positive effects tend to stress the importance of migrant remittances that relax the household resource constraint while studies that find overall negative effects tend to argue that the detrimental effects of parental

absence override any improvements in income. Another important distinction which might explain these divergent findings is the time elapsed since the migration event took place, something that is not always observable by the researcher. For instance, Antman (2011b) finds a negative effect of paternal migration on study hours for boys within the first year after the migration took place, when it might be too early to expect a positive effect from remittances to outweigh the father's absence from the home. In contrast, Antman (2011c) finds a positive effect of paternal migration on ultimate educational attainment for girls, an inherently longer-term outcome when migration may be expected to yield greater positive effects. Hanson and Woodruff (2003) find a similar positive effect of living in a household with an external migrant on the educational attainment of girls in Mexico. The gendered pattern of these results, however, may also be due to a shift in bargaining power as discussed above and explored in Antman (2010a).

2.5 Health of families Left Behind

Compared with the extensive research on the effects of migration on child schooling highlighted above, much less is known about the health effects for children left behind. Hildebrandt and McKenzie (2005) find a positive effect of migration of at least one household member on child health in Mexico as measured by higher birth weights and lower infant mortality rates. At the same time, they find that migration is associated with lower health inputs for children left behind, including breastfeeding and vaccinations. Gibson et al. (2011b) exploit the migration lottery to New Zealand discussed above and find evidence that migration of a household member leads to worse diets and health outcomes for children left behind in Tonga, as measured by weight-for-age and height-for-age. However, Stillman et al. (2012) and Gibson et al. (2011b) use the same

lottery program to document improvements in health outcomes for children that migrate, thus adding to the more extensive literature comparing health outcomes of migrants and natives.

Positive effects of migration on the health of remaining children have been documented in other contexts as well. Macours and Vakis (2010) present evidence that maternal migration has a positive impact on early cognitive development of children in Nicaragua, a finding they attribute to changes in income and maternal empowerment stemming from migration. Anton (2010) finds a positive effect of remittances on short-term and middle-term nutritional status of children in Ecuador as measured by weight-for-height and weight-for-age. Kanaiaupuni and Donato (1999) show a positive effect of migration and remittances on infant survival in Mexico in the longer term. Further research in this area is needed to get a sense for whether the somewhat divergent results discussed here can be attributed to different settings or heterogeneous effects based on the ages of children involved.

2.6 Effects Of Migration On Spouses

The literature on the impact of migration on spouses left behind is largely focused on labor supply responses of female non-migrants, and can be thought of as a subset of the larger literature examining the labor supply responses of non-migrant household members. Researchers in this area stress the importance of the remittance channel for generating a positive income effect that would raise the reservation wage of non-migrants, and thus potentially decrease labor force participation.⁵ As in the discussion in section 3, however, it is important to recognize that remittance receipt is typically preceded by a period in which the migrant leaves the home and is (at least temporarily) not contributing to the household. In this case, it may be that the migration of the head of household could induce his spouse to enter the labor market. Thus, the impact of

international migration on spouses may again come down to a question of short-and long-term effects. Of course, if the migrant is not successful in obtaining a regular job to generate remittances over and above his earning in the home country, a spouse might be induced to remain in the labor market over the longer term as well. Regardless, the overall impact remains an empirical question to which researchers have turned their attention.

Consistent with an overriding income effect stemming from remittances, most studies present evidence of a negative effect of migration on labor supply of non-migrants. This relationship is robust across a wide range of settings. Grigorian and Melkonyan (2011) find a decrease in hours of work in Armenia for those households receiving remittances from migrants abroad. Kim (2007) shows that remittance income reduces labor market participation for nonmigrants in Jamaica. Rodriguez and Tiongson (2001) find that migrants reduce the labor participation and hours of work of non-migrants in the Philippines.

2.6 Effects On Parents Left Behind

Dryden-Peterson, (2018). Overview Another critical relationship for policymakers to understand is the impact of adult children's migration on non-migrant parents remaining in the home country. This is particularly true given the rapid aging of the population in most developing countries and the continued reliance on children for support in old-age. The context is important because international migration is often thought to boost earnings for migrants who may then remit more to parents at home. At the same time, the migrant may be restricted from traveling home and providing personal care for the elderly parent. This may act as an especially hard constraint for unauthorized migrants. These stylized facts raise several important policy questions: How does migration affect contributions and time assistance to aging parents? How can changes in their

contributions be traced to impacts on their overall health and well-being? Do children remaining in the home country compensate for the absence of their migrant siblings?

Contributions in Time and Money

Despite the important policy questions raised by the incidence of migration and its impacts on non-migrant elderly dependents, there are still few studies that consider these relationships. Again, a critical stumbling block is proper identification of these effects, that is, tying outcomes directly to migration. Individuals and families select into migration. Thus having a migrant child may be correlated with other unobserved variables that are actually driving the relationship between migration and the outcome variable of interest. For instance, a bad economic shock may lead an individual to migrate and also to contribute less to his parents. Missing data on all transfers between children and parents also poses a significant challenge to researchers because migration may in part be funded by families in the home country and what we might interpret as an increase in transfers could actually be a simple repayment. This would be consistent with Stark's (2011) model in which families insure migrants for taking on the risks associated with migrating in the short-run and in the long-run, the migrant repays the family members remaining in the home country.

Alemi, Q., & Stempel, C. (2018) develop empirical tests on the relationship between remittance behavior and home family characteristics to test between competing theories of the motivation to remit—pure altruism, pure selfishness, and what they term “tempered altruism or enlightened self-interest” where the family and migrant enter into a mutually beneficial contract that either provides a method of coinsurance against risks or investing in long-term projects. They find evidence for the latter. Rapoport and Docquier (2005) review these motivations and discuss the

difficulties in using observed behavior to test competing theories underlying remittance behavior in the absence of sufficiently detailed data lacking in most studies.

Alaimo (2006) considers whether migrant parents receive more financial contributions from their children when one child migrates, but does not examine the intensive margin of time contributions. She also limits the sample to parents with no co-resident children over 18, which greatly reduces her sample since co-residence of adult children is highly prevalent in Mexico, as in other developing countries. She finds that parents of migrants are more likely to receive financial assistance and face similar chances of receiving time help as parents with no children in the U.S. While Antman (forthcoming) and the exercise below use the same data source as Alaimo (2006), the former does not exclude observations based on residency status and limits the sample to parents reporting difficulties with “Activities of Daily Living” in order to recover information on time contributions from children (discussed below). One could argue that these 16 individuals are the most critical group of policy interest since they are the least independent and most likely to suffer without support of children.

2.7 Migration and its Impact on the Family

The impact of migration on the family would be felt when the migrant leaves his family at his place of origin or takes the family members along with him to the place of destination. There are important effects on the family in both modes of migration. In the following pages, we will analyse the various impacts of migration on the family.

(i) Migration and Conjugal Separation Among Internal Migrants The important effect of migration on the family is the conjugal separation. Separation of spouses is perhaps the most important element of the psychic cost of migration. Data regarding the extent of conjugal separation in various streams of migration are not available. However, migration surveys at city and village level, and the census tabulations, could be used to derive the information about the level of conjugal separation. We have utilized the 1971 census migration data and the results of a few migration surveys. They are presented in Table 3. Considering the married migrants in Bombay, at least a minimum of 39 out of 100 persons³ during 1961 and 33 out 100 persons during 1971 left their wives at their place of origin. The 1971 census estimate for Delhi suggest that one-fifth of all married migrants had their wives in their place of origin. The migration data for the decades 1961-71 and 1971-81 reveal that there is a tendency for rural to urban migration to become more permanent and increasingly there is a movement of families rather than individuals. However, the decline in the prevalence of conjugal separation is rather slow and beyond a certain limit the rate does not decline. For example, in Delhi, "the prevalence of conjugal separation declined by only 6 percentage points over a period of 20 years", (Alemi, Q., & Stempel, C. 2018). Examination of the sex ratio of migrants and non-migrants specific to general and married population for various cities in India reveals that the level of conjugal separation observed for Bombay and Delhi would represent maximum and minimum values respectively of the spectrum while the values for all other cities fall in between the spectrum.

The state of origin of the migrant has strong association with the level of conjugal separation prevalent among the migrants from those states. Among the out-migrating states there are significant differences in the levels of conjugal separation. Cost of migration and the social and cultural conditions determine the incidence of the migrant bringing his family to the place of

destination. Data from Bombay, Delhi and Calcutta suggest that most migrants who have to cover considerable distance to reach the place of destination leave their wives at the native place. But then, there is a strong tendency among the migration flows originating from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan to be male dominant. Among the migrants coming into Bombay specific to the State of birth, the highest sex ratio is observed among those from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, the number of males in the stream being 5.6 times the number of females. The migrants from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar contribute about 12 per cent of the total migrants in Bombay, ranking third after only Maharashtra and Gujarat, (Zachariah, 2008). Gore (2000), in his study on migrants in Bombay, found that 44 per cent of the Hindi speaking, 22 per cent of the Marathi speaking and 21 per cent of the Tamil speaking married migrants have left their wives behind, in their villages. The Hindi migrants come from a cultural background where the familial obligations to the extended family are still strong and often migration is part of meeting familial obligations for additional income.

Social, Psychological and Economic effect of migration on migrant families

In the case of the man leaving his wife and children in the place of origin, mostly in the village, the social and psychological consequences are far more complicated. His absence may be short or long, he may return to the place of origin frequently or only rarely. Normally, the wife and the children are not left alone in the village. In most cases, the wife is left with the parents or with parents and other relatives. "Only rarely she is left behind by herself and with children to look after the home" (Gore, 2000). Patel (2013) observed that among her Ratnagiri migrants in Bombay, in the initial stages after marriage, workers very often leave their wives in the villages. So long as the mother of the migrant is alive, it is she who manages all the household affairs in

Bombay as well as in the village and so there is preponderance of undivided families over joint families.

Bryman, A. (2016). also observed the tendency among the emigrant household to get together, not only to meet the obligations arising in consequence of the worker's migration abroad, but also for the purpose of living. Where the wife and children were living separately with the migrant worker before his departure, the tendency is for the wife to move in with the husband's parents, or her own parents, along with her children. Thus, "the consequence of international migration is an increased incidence of joint-family living arrangements" (Arnold and Shah, 2014). The prolonged duration of the migrants' absence from the place of origin, however, reduces familial interdependency. In those families, where the wife has no one to depend upon and when her children are young, the wives ultimately join their husbands. But in a significant number of families, the grown up children have replaced other members in looking after the affairs of the family. In many cases where the migrant is expected to spend many years in his place of destination, the woman takes an active role in the management of the family affairs and depends less on other male relatives. Economic conditions could force most male members of a family to migrate. As a consequence, quite a good proportion of households are left with old, retired males or become altogether female oriented. Such a situation is most common in areas which are more prone to out-migration.

The sex ratio among the population in the age group 15 to 59 in Ratnagiri (1,242) district of Maharashtra, and for Muslims in Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu (1,232), is indicative of such a phenomenon. The situation is more alarming in out-migration prone villages. Table 4 provides the sex ratio of migration-prone Muslim⁴ villages in Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli districts of Tamil Nadu. The sex ratio in these pockets has been further damaged due to an

increased flow of out-migration to the Middle East. Agbemenu, K., Hannan, (2018) observed that in those villages with a heavy out-migration in Kerala, the femalecentered households can be as high as 30 per cent or more of the total number of migrant households. The absence of able bodied males, who are sometimes better educated, affects the agricultural production system in the villages and the shortage of labour is temporarily felt in such villages. "The females tend to participate more in labour force and they are compensating for the loss of male labour" Agbemenu, at al(2018). In Punjab, the out-flow of the labour force from the villages is being filled by the in-migration of labourers from the neighbouring state and, hence, "leaving the female participation rate unaltered" (Cassen, 1978). The impact of family separation due to migration is felt severely by the wife and children on the one side and the migrant on the other. The wife and children are deprived of those forms of emotional security that a husband and father normally provides. The wife is likely to suffer the most. Surrounded as she is often by the inlaws only, sometimes hostile, "any protection she may have had from her husband is no longer available to her" (Hauser, 2017). Such problems seem to be serious in the case of newly married brides. Gulati (1983) reported that mental illness has been found to be particularly acute in the so-called Gulf Pockets' of Kerala State. The women in the age group of 15 to 25 seem to be the worst victims. A major reason for the psychiatric disorder is the incompatibility of these young women with their inlaws, made worse by their husbands' absence. Data from Pakistan (Arnold and Shah, 1984) indicate that the young wives separated from their husbands, due to migration, suffer from a variety of psychosomatic illnesses and younger patients experience a high degree of sexual frustration.

Doswell, W. (2018)mentions such phenomenon among the women in Ratnagiri and Satara districts who suffer prolonged separation from their husbands. In India, empirical evidence is

inadequate on various aspects of marital and sexual disturbances arising in consequence of conjugal separation. The incidence of infidelity and extramarital sexual affairs, related to the husband's absence, need investigation. Conjugal separation, due to migration, is expected to reduce the fertility level among the migrants. Dandekar (2020) found that the fertility performance of the wives of migrants was not lower than that of wives of non-migrant husbands. However, many recent studies, do not support Dandekar's findings.

2.8 Impact of Migration on the Family in the Context of the Movement

When the entire conjugal family migrates, the full impact of the move is felt by all the members of the family. There are major differences among migrants in terms of socio-economic background and their assimilation with the non-migrant population. While educated migrants, and their families coming to the city, are able to adjust to the urban life, the uneducated find it difficult. A close examination of the surveys conducted in urban areas reveals that the migrant families live in specified pockets of the city depending on their place of origin, religion, caste and occupation, and maintain ties with their native place. "This situation has encouraged the return migration of the families and hampered their acculturation in the cities" (Pathak, 1985). The family in the urban surroundings is an entity quite different from its former self. It is a unit socially and economically somewhat different from its relatives with whom its members have lived and worked in the village. Migration of families to urban areas has been observed to have both positive and negative impact on the family. "Migration of a family to urban areas leads to improved status of women and lesser vogue of purdah or veil in general and formation of nuclear families" (Hauser, 2018). Other gains are the "improvement in the status of low caste people" (Saxena, 2017); improved social and economic aspirations of the family; "better availability and

increased utilisation of health facilities, particularly the maternal and child health services' (Ministry of Health, 2019).

As far as physical amenities are concerned, hardly any city in India has open spaces adequate to provide healthy recreation and exercise for children; none has well equipped and properly supervised playgrounds in poor migrant neighbourhoods. The psychological adjustment to urban life, and the changes that occur in parent-child relationships, are not well-documented and are less susceptible for evaluation. On the one hand, the nuclearisation of families is likely to lead to closer relationships between parents and children. But then, the nature of housing, living and working conditions available for most poor families, contribute to the problems of parent children relationships. Very often, the women also work. Improvement in the status of women in an urban setting is, to some extent, due to their ability to obtain employment. The employment opportunities for women in urban areas are few but they are expanding. The families of Indian migrants need to adjust to a large number of social constraints in the Middle East. Formal religious life is difficult. Most Gulf States have permitted the catholic church to function while muslims find no problems in practising their religion. "But the Hindu families find it difficult to observe religious festivals. In most Gulf States, Hindus observe their festivals in less conspicuous ways and only in private" (Weiner, 1982). Indian families do not have any contact with the native population, and, hence, there is no need or necessity felt for assimilation. The Gulf States encourage foreigners to live apart from the native population. "Migrants are incorporated into the economic structure but are excluded from the social structure. Separation, not integration or assimilation, is the goal" (Weiner, 2012).

2.9 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS

There is a growing debate between scholars about the importance of theories to qualitative research. Some argued that knowledge in qualitative research is theory laden and hence, methods are theory driven while some others strongly fight that qualitative research is an inductive process that stands from individual components or experiences and the purpose of preconceived theory is invisible. Notwithstanding, theories are important for qualitative research in a sense that researchers first sought the knowledge which helps to see and understand deconstructed components and hence, for these research I as a researcher used migration theories and approaches to shape the study. The other contending issue related to theory and research is that choosing the appropriate theory is a nightmare task for many of us since there is no clear criteria to select a theory for research problem being selected. It is therefore, based on common senses that theories for research have been selected mainly on the basis of the relation that exist between their central concern and research problems. Drawing on this assumption, I also have used the following migration theories for this research.

Migration is an interdisciplinary subject. There are different theories on migration which are given by demographers, economists, sociologists and geographers to examine the process of migration. These theories explain why people migrate and the reason for their migration. So the study of migration is not confined to a single scientific domain.

The New Economic Theory to Rural-urban Migration

Many migration theories are elusive on rural to urban migration and clear to international migration. But it does not necessarily mean that these international migration theories do not have similar relevance to internal migration and hence, researchers who are focusing on internal migration have been trying to understand how these migration theories are applicable to internal migration. For example, the neoclassical economic theory of migration

assumed that there is a disequilibrium of labor and demand across geography usually between countryside and cities or developed and underdeveloped regions. This also happens to rural-urban migration, the push-pull theory assumes that the push factors available in place of origin force international migrants to leave their specific place of birth. The same is true that in rural urban migration, the diverse push factors force rural segment of people to migrate toward nearest towns and cities.

Returning to the issue of the new economic theory of migration, it is important first at least to understand the limitations of the neoclassical economy of migration theories since the new economy of migration theory is developed to give answer for the critical limitations of the former neoclassical approach which stands with the premises that individual migrants are rational economic men who migrate to only maximize their financial capital and the process migration later keeps labor equilibrium exist between sending and receiving areas (De Haas, 2010). This process eventually bring improvements of citizens in both areas since there is balanced employment opportunities among them (Palloni et al., 2001).

Unlike the neoclassical approach, the new economic migration theory assumes that migrants in addition to making rational choice to maximize their socio-economic status, they also share risks faced by their larger communities, villages and families. The decision to make migration real is held by not only with individual migrants but also their guardians, community members, households and This approach also applies to understand sharing expenses and other socially related risks among partners who are migrating together or separately. For example, in the context of international migration, migrants live in shared house first to minimize the consequences of unfamiliarity to peoples and locations in destination areas and second they share the house rent and other living expenses to accumulate capital and send it back to families and

friends. In similar vein, this approach is applicable to rural-urban migration despite it is less exposed to bureaucratic matters and unfamiliarity. In fact, it does not necessarily mean that there is no unfamiliarity and sense of foreigners in the context of internal migrations. Migrants who belonged under Apartheid in side south Africa had been changed to the status of foreigners (Jones, 2009, p. 7) in a time so far. The new economy approach coincides with the livelihood approach in that both focused on the role of families and households to hold migration decision and taking migrations as a strategy to share risks related with resource scarcities, decreasing annual yields, market failure and above all, they strongly focused on remittances from internal and international migration (De Haas, 2010).

Nevertheless, the new economy theory of migration comes not to totally reject what the former neoclassical migration theories conceived. It favors the issue of remittance and reject individualism. In light of this, this migration theory helps to assess the issue of remittance in local level of urban ward migration. For example, (Lall & Selod, 2006) pointed out that rural people in developing nations send their energetic and young adults to urban areas to sell their human capital and to get remittance in return. Not only to get the remittance but also to increase the amount as per their children's human capital (the most energetic rewarded better). The remittance being sent could be used as giving protections for the property of migrants in the origin rural areas, to mount family financial capital or diversify means of getting cash to family and for the migrate it could be saved in rural areas since there is very limited standard financial saving institutions in poor nations. Likewise, this theory would also help to understand decisions to rural-urban migration since the decision even for individual migrant could be determined by the family collectives out in the rural areas there.

Generally, this migration theory is important to show up remittance in this study too, even though scholars seem skeptic the relevance of it to rural-urban migration in general and the issue of remittance in internal migration in particular. It is to the extent that migration to contemporary scholars 'has somehow come to mean only international migration'(King & Skeldon, 2010, p. 1620).

2.9.1 The Sustainable Livelihood Approach

The livelihood approaches have conceptual parallel with the new economy theory of migrations. The driving force that contributed for emergence of livelihood to the academia was the researchers' 1970s micro level studies in developing nations where a bundle of poor available with chronic poverty and instability. Their contradicting research results with previous rigid theoretical ideologies like dependency and neo-Marxist, forced them to find a holistic approach which would help the poor to overcome poverty with more organized and productive approach (De Haas, 2010, p. 244). This was the livelihood approach which they soundly formulated having different substances.

Sustainable livelihood is a way of living, working and accessing resources by the poor with manner that cope up from shocks, vulnerability and stress and maintain capabilities among the poor without jeopardizing the future use of resources Sustainable livelihood is a way of living, working and accessing resources by the poor with manner that cope up from shocks, vulnerability and stress and maintain capabilities among the poor without jeopardizing the future use of resources and in a way that assist other forms of livelihood in short and long term in both local and global levels (Chambers and Conway, 1992 in Rigg, 2007, p. 30).

A sustainable livelihood is making a living with full accessibility of capitals and resources entitlements, freedom, capacity, equity, coordination among individuals, household,

state and legal protections and sustainable efforts by poor others. It is in general a productive oriented approach emerged to avoid the culture of poverty from those deprived people and a bench mark that puts possibility to bring progress among the poor with a collective efforts by the community, house hold, individual, government and with all process and strategies to occupy resources and finally to bring a positive change for people's everyday lives (Hahn, Riederer, & Foster, 2009).The sustainable livelihood approach is thus used to understand strategies that people tend to use to alleviate uncertainties, kinds of capitals that should be applied, contexts and the ultimate outcome that follows all of which are substances in sustainable livelihood frame.

2.9.2 Sustainable Livelihoods Framework

Sustainable livelihoods framework is a tool or structure that used to improve understanding about livelihood concept and its various substances (De Haan & Zoomers, 2005). Putting people at the center, it is organized with five components: the vulnerability contexts, livelihood assets, structure and process, livelihood strategy and livelihood outcome.

The vulnerability contexts in this spectrum and the push factors from Lee theory are the most drivers to begin to think about this holistic approaches in the first place but might not to all livelihood approaches since some are affected by multitude of factors operating and shifting together which later determine the outcome. Nevertheless, the livelihood vulnerability contexts are controllable and uncontrollable incidents that mostly comes from the external environment to people's livelihood and conventionally include trend, shock and seasonality. Trends in turn might include population growth, resource use trends, economic trends and the like. The shocks in turn embrace health conditions shocks, wellbeing shocks of individuals and household, resource

shocks, yields shocks and seasonality are temporal incidents that challenge livings by people and include seasonality of price, productions and employment and the like.

In this research perspective social capital is also seen as a network that integrate migrant with migrant, migrant with host community, migrant with sending community and helps to uphold spirit of coexistence and cohesion among these parties and helps to lower risks to migrants in the destination town; it further provides informal insurance for those vulnerable movers. In general, social capital serves as tool of mediation to achieve other forms of capitals say for example, physical and financial capitals (Nath, Inoue, & Pretty, 2010; Williams & Durrance, 2008).

Financial capitals in livelihood are those resources found in terms of cashes, credits, savings and other means that would generate money. Perhaps the outcome in livelihood is to increase these resources or to get them. To do so, financial capital works with the social capital, natural and the rests since one could determine the wellbeing of the other. Natural capitals are capitals found in the form of land, water, forest, livestock etc. Physical capital may include resources like house, road, transport, and energy and the human capital embraces, skill, knowledge ability and health to pursue sound livelihood strategies.

The livelihood strategy is a combination of actions, choices and activities uphold to make livelihood. Most studies argue that strategies in livelihoods are divers since the livelihood itself is different from one person or group to the other. However, the over repeatedly strategies mentioned by many scholars are intensifications and extensification in agricultures for rural context, green revolution, environmental preservation, migration, diversifications and technical gain and increasing use of inputs like fertilizer to increase out puts and reach on livelihood goals. In type livelihood strategies can be classified as survival strategies, adaptive strategies and

copping strategies. The first one focuses on household's and individual's activities for making adjustment to survive and when they variously show or reflect their inability to lift out from livelihood challenges they live with. It might be conflict, lack of promising outcome from activities chosen for leading life. The second type is when individuals and households choose diverse and new activities to lift out from risks. It might be by intensification or diversification of activities and the third type is strategy when households and individuals use their collective assets to immediately move out from uncertainties like environmental hazard, war, loss in properties and following the footsteps of others to escape self and family members from troubles that alter life and livelihoods (Rozario, 2011, pp. 270-296).

The livelihood outcomes are generally changes in wellbeing of individual and groups that holds better standard of living, increased income, elimination of vulnerabilities and sustainable resource uses that could determine the opportunity of tomorrow livings by siblings and other generations.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 Introduction

This chapter explains the method and materials adopted that will be adopted in this research, this chapter provides a detailed explanation of method and materials used in conducting this study as well as the selected method of data analysis and data collection method. This will be done under the following subheading.

- Research design
- Population of the study
- Sample Size and sample technique
- Instrument of data collection
- Method of data collection

3.1 Research design

The research design for this study is the descriptive survey research design. The survey method is an indispensable data collection tool which is used in gathering first hand information on a subject of interest to the researcher.

The survey method is adopted due to its efficacy in collecting useful data from sample population to stand as a representative of the entire population within a relatively short period of time (Nwajwi2000)

3.2 Population of the Study

The study was conducted in Benin City with a population of 899,626 (*Source: National Population Commission of Nigeria, 2016*). The target population comprised market and women association, etc all in Benin Metropolis.

3.4 Sample size and sampling techniques

A sample is a subset of a population under study which acts as a representative of the larger population.

The sample of the study was derived using Yamane (1967) formula given as:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where:

n = Sample size

N = Finite population

e = Level of Significance = 5% (0.05)

1 = Constant

$$\begin{aligned} n &= \frac{899,626}{1 + 899,626 (0.05)^2} \\ &= \frac{899,626}{1 + 899,626 (0.0025)} \\ &= \frac{899,626}{2250} \\ &= 399.833377 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore a sample size of 400 respondents was gathered for the investigation.

3.5 Sample Technique

In selecting the respondents a cluster sampling technique was used in grouping the respondents by communities, from these a convenient sampling technique was utilized in selecting

the stratified respondents by communities. The study will make use of the semi structured questionnaire in soliciting response from the respondents.

3.6 Method of Data Collection

Questionnaire was employed as instrument of data collection from women in Egor Local Government area of Edo State the questionnaire contains two sections. Sections A of the questionnaire contains items designed to give personal information about the respondent while section B contains items that can help show effects of migration on migrant families in benin city.

3.7 Method of Data Analysis

The method of data analysis used was the statistical package for Social Science (SPSS) version 21.0 data, were also analysed using simple percent and frequency distribution table. to a particular set of people.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents, the findings of the research based on the background characteristics of the respondents in Benin City Edo State. These characteristics include; respondents’ age, sex, religion, education, occupation and the effects of migration on migrant families in Benin city is examined

4.1 Socio-Economic Characteristics of Respondents

Presentation of Results

Sex Distribution of respondent

Table 4-1: Sex Distribution of respondent

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid MALE	180	45	45	45
FEMALES	220	55	55	100.0
Total	400	100.0	100.0	

Source: Research Survey, 2023

Table 4.1 shows the sex of respondent that was sample for the study. A total 220 (55%) of female and 180 (45%) male were sampled. The relatively high percentage of female is as a result of the fact that most of them hardly go out in search of greener pasture compare to men. And again due to cultural practices, movement from one place to another does not favor women compared to men.

Age of Respondents

The age structure of a population explains the distribution of old and young in the given society. This variable is very important in determining the manpower supply, education and social services in the society which may dictates the use of health care services.

Table 4-2: Age Distribution of Respondent

age	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid 18-24	26	26.8	26.8	26.8
25-29	23	26.8	26.8	53.6
30-34	13	23.4	23.4	77
35-39	10	8.6		
40-44	32			
45-49	40	64.4		
50-54	16			
55-59	25			
above 60	10	22.9	22.9	99.9
Total	398	100.0	100.0	

Source: Research Survey, 2023

Table 4.2 shows the distribution of respondents by age. It reveals that 64.4 percent of the respondents are over 45 years of age, followed by those who are 30-34 years with 8.6percent. This implies that majority of the respondents are mostly the elderly people who are left behind to take care of the village. This also implies that the security of the people in the town is at stake because the youth who supposed to be the security have migrated leaving behind the elderly people.

Marital Status

Table 4-3: Marital Status of respondent

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid SINGLE	118	29.5	29.5	29.5
MARRIED	263	65.7	65.7	95.2
DIVORCED	7	1.8	1.8	97
Widowed/Widower	12	3	3	100
Total	398	100.0	100.0	

Source: Research Survey, 2023

Table 4.3 shows that majority of the respondents are married with 65.7 percent, single with 29.5% and 1.8 percent are separated while 3 percent are Widowed/Widower. The high proportion of married respondents is to be expected as the study area is family a rural setting and rural areas are generally known to have high proportion of persons in marital union. The relatively high percentage of married people is probably due to the cultural and religious setting of the study area which encourages early marriage. This could be attributed to the fact that those that are married might have found it difficult to move without their household members unlike those that are single who can easily move at any given time when the need arises, especially in search of better employment.

Educational Attainment and Occupation

Education is a very important determinant of out-migration. The level of education is directly related to the percentage desire to migrate. The major reason for wanting to migrate is to seek white collar jobs in the cities. Therefore the higher a person's level of education, the higher the tendency to migrate to the cities.

Table 4.4 shows the distribution of the sampled population by the highest level of educational attainment.

Table 4-4: Educational Qualification

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Primary education	52	13	13	13
Secondary education	213	53.5	53.5	66.6
Tertiary Education	120	30	30	96.6
None	15	3.75	3.75	100

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Primary education	52	13	13	13
Secondary education	213	53.5	53.5	66.6
Tertiary Education	120	30	30	96.6
None	15	3.75	3.75	100
Total	400	100.0	100.0	

Source: Research Survey, 2023

From table 4.4 it shows that 53.5 percent of the sampled population has attended secondary school, 30 percent indicate that they have tertiary education. The high proportion of respondents with secondary school education is likely as a result of the introduction of the Universal Basic Education (UBE) in Nigeria, which has contributed greatly to the total number of enrolment in both public and private schools in the country. The tertiary education level is also high (30 percent) because there is increased awareness on the importance of education and it serves as a gate pass to gaining employment in the country.

4.2 Analysis of Research question

Table 4.5 General Knowledge

ITEMS	SA 4	A 3	D 2	SD 1
Migration is the movement of people from one place to another or within a country or between countries	165 41.3%	223 55.8%	26 6.5%	8 2%
Sometimes some families in Benin city are separated as a result of migration	157 39.3%	183 45.3%	20 5%	40 10%
It could either be the father or the mother who is migrating there by leaving the spouse behind	161 40%	136 34%	34 8.5%	69 17.3%
Migrant families are prevalent in your localities	119 29.8%	181 45.3%	74 18.5%	26 6.5%
Mean score	156	190.2	32.6	23.5
Means Score percentage	39%	47.55%	8.2%	5.9%

Source: Students fieldwork, 2023

Table 4.5 above shows the general knowledge about migration. Judging from the mean scores of responses that responded to items that analyses the general knowledge about migration. From the analysis, Migration is the *movement of people from one place to another* or within a country or between countries, while 114 (28.5%) strongly agreed, 207 (51.8%) agreed. Only 55(13.8%) disagreed while 24 (6%) strongly disagreed. However, Sometimes some families in Benin city are separated as a result of migration. 158 (39.5%) strongly agreed, 209 (52.3%) agreed, 22(5.5%) disagreed while only 12 (3%). A comparison of if It could either be the father or the mother who is migrating there by leaving the spouse behind , 163 (41.3%) strongly agreed while 200(50%) agreed. About Migrant families are prevalent in your localities Only 29 (7%) while 8(2%) disagreed. From the analysis, the mean score percentage shows that majority responded positively with 190(47.55%) of the respondent agreed while 156 (39%) strongly agreed. Only 32.6(8.2%) disagreed while 23 (5.9%) strongly disagreed. This implies that migrant remittances has a significant influence on Educational Attainment

1. Research question 1: To examine the effects of migration on marital stability of migrant families in Benin City.

Table 4.6 Analysis of EFFECTS OF MIGRATION ON MARITAL STABILITY OF MIGRANT FAMILIES IN BENIN

ITEMS	SA 4	A 3	D 2	SD 1
Migrant families are better off compared to other families.	163 41.3%	200 50%	29 7%	8 2%
The bond between couples may be strengthen when their spouse are migrated	163 40.3%	203 50.1%	26 6.5%	8 2%
Some families disintegrate after migration of a spouse as a result of infidelity	114 28.5%	207 51.8%	55 13.8%	24 6%
Migration ahs little or no effect on migrant families	119 29.8%	181 45.3%	74 18.5%	26 6.5%
Migration has huge effect on migrant families	160 40%	200 50%	28 7%	12 3%
Mean score	152.1	198.4	35.9	15.8
Means Score percentage	38%	49.6	8.75%	3.75%

Source: Students fieldwork, 2023

Table 4.6 above shows data as to the effect of migration on parenting styles among migrant families. Judging from the responses of the respondent, 163 (41.3%) strongly agreed, 200(50%) agreed, 29(7%) disagreed while 8(2%) strongly agreed that Migrant families are better off compared to other families. The bond between couples may be strengthen when their spouse are

migrated. 163(40.3%) strongly agreed, 203(50.1%) agreed, 26(6.5%) disagreed, while, 8(2%) strongly disagree that Some families disintegrate after migration of a spouse as a result of infidelity. From the analysis, Migration has little huge effect on migrant families, while 114 (28.5%) strongly agreed, 207 (51.8%) agreed. Only 55(13.8%) disagreed while 24 (6%) strongly disagreed.

Research question 2: To determine the effects of migration on parenting styles among migrant families in Benin City.

? Table 4.7 EFFECTS OF MIGRATION ON PARENTING STYLES AMONG MIGRANT FAMILIES

ITEMS	SA 4	A 3	D 2	SD 1
As a result of the absence of a parent children are raised by single parent	119 29.8%	181 45.3%	74 18.5%	26 6.5%
Most often than not, the migrated parent tend to abandoned his/her responsibility on the children	160 40%	200 50%	28 7%	12 3%
Parenting style on migrant families are mostly single parenting	165 41.3%	223 55.8%	26 6.5%	8 2%
Single parenting may not be the case of migrant families as migrated parent my still contribute equally if not more than the parent present	163 40.8%	200 50%	29 7.5%	8 2%
Children need for both parent are usually neglected in migrant families	160 40%	200 50%	28 7%	12 3%
Mean score	153.4	200.8	37	13.2
Means Score percentage	38.4%	50%	9.3%	3.3%

Table 4.7 above shows the effects of migration on parenting styles among migrant families . Judging from the responses of the respondent, 119(29.8%) strongly agreed that As a result of the absence of a parent children are raised by single parent, while 181(45.3%) of the respondents agreed, 74(18.5%) disagreed while only 26 (6.5%) strongly disagreed. Again Most often than not, the migrated parent tend to abandoned his/her responsibility on the children. 160(40%) strongly

agreed, 200(50%) agreed, 28(7%) disagreed only 12(3%) strongly disagreed. Children need for both parent are usually neglected in migrant families 165(40%) strongly agreed 223(55.8%) agreed 26(6.5%) disagreed only 8(2%) strongly disagreed. Single parenting may not be the case of migrant families as migrated parent may still contribute equally if not more than the parent present

Research question 3 To evaluate the effects of migration on the standard of living of migrant families in Benin City.

Table 4.8 Analysis of EFFECTS OF MIGRATION ON THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF MIGRANT FAMILIES

ITEMS	SA 4	A 3	D 2	SD 1
Migrant families fend better off compared to other normal families	55 13.8%	24 6%	114 36%	207 51.7%
Families with neglected migrant spouse still maintain a low standard of living	160 40%	200 50%	28 7%	12 3%
The families of a migrated family member tend to fend of remittances from the migrated spouse	165 41.3%	223 55.8%	26 6.5%	8 2%
Mean score	141.2	170	44.6	48.6
Means Score percentage	35.30%	42.50%	11%	12.3

The results from table 4.8 above indicated that an overwhelming majority of the respondents (87.7%) decline that Migrant families fend better off compared to other normal families, while few respondents (76.0%) asserted. In the area of Families with neglected migrant spouse still maintain a low standard of living, majority of the respondent (90%) asserted that migrant' remittances is a vital source of income and it contribute to the improved wellbeing of families. Remittances are often used to combat poverty and to overcome economic hardships respondents responded positively (90%) and household that receive remittance something attain better

economic status about 90% asserted while only 9.5% declined, The families of a migrated family member tend to fend of remittances from the migrated spouse. This implies that remittance plays an important role in raising the standard of living of the household and influence family wellbeing.

Research question 4: To what are the causative agents responsible for international migration among parents

Table 4.9 Analysis Causative Agents Responsible For International Migration Among Parents

ITEMS	SA 4	A 3	D 2	SD 1
A parent may travel and leave his ward as result of the search of greener pastures for his/her wards	163 40.8%	200 50%	29 7.5%	8 2%
Some wifes travel in other to cut ties with their previous families and start a new life abroad	163 40.8%	203 50.8%	26 6.5%	8 2%
Peole travel to have an experience of the world after the shores of their previous country	114 28.5%	207 51.8%	55 13.8%	24 6%
Unemployment could be the reason why some spouse choose to relocate abroad	119 29.8%	181 45.3%	74 18.5%	26 6.5%
Migrant remittances is another factor to consider	160 40%	200 50%	28 7%	12 3%
Mean score	152.4	198.4	36	15.4
Means Score percentage	38.1%	49.5%	9%	3.9%

Majority of respondent agreed that Unemployment, migrant remittances, leasure, search for greener pastures, could be the reason why some spouse choose to relocate abroad and the percentage of the result in table 4.9.152.4 (38.1%) strongly agreed. 198.5(49.5%) agreed 36(9%) disagreed while 15.4 (3.9%) strongly disagreed.

4.4 Discussion of Findings

The analysis reveals that Effects Of Migration On Migrant Families In Benin can not be over emphasized. The findings is in line with Jennings and Clarke (2015) whose observed that some portion of monies are saved, invested in family-business and agricultural inputs, education and health which increase the relevance of mnigration thereby increasing its effect on households. Also according to Ango et al. (2014) reported that Nigeria has witnessed a signifcant increase in irregular emigration due to factors such as poverty, civil unrest, ecological issues and the lack of sustainable livelihoods. In essence, the need to improve the socio-economic security of one's family in Nigeria leads to irregular migration to Europe and even drives families to decide to

The present study reveals that there is a significance effect of migration on the household, spouses, children, etc in Benin city, Nigeria. Although migrant remittance has affected the wellbeing of household in Nigeria. However, the percentage (33%) of impact can be considered very low when compared to the its impact in households.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1 Summary of Findings

This work studies the effects of migration on migrant families in Benin. It explains the impact of migration on families, and house holds of migrant spouse. From the results of the estimation one can draw a logical conclusion on the effect of migration on migrant families, parenting style, living condition of migrant families as well as the causative agents responsible for international migration among parents. . After analyzing the data it was revealed that almost all the respondents have an understanding of what migrations means and how it influence the migrant family structure. Also, the finding aimed to:

1. To examine the effects of migration on marital stability of migrant families in Benin City.
2. To determine the effects of migration on parenting styles among migrant families in Benin City
3. To evaluate the effects of migration on the standard of living of migrant families in Benin City.
4. To what are the causative agents responsible for international migration among parents

According to the findings there are always instances of young adult migrating and leaving their families behind in search of greener pastures. This is in tandem with UNDP

(2019) who opined that Single or unaccompanied adolescent migrants also leave their parents behind in the search for sustained economic livelihoods and an improved standard of living for the families they leave behind (United Nations Development Programme, 2019).

Also the study also revealed that these migration tend to affect the migrant family structure as either of the married partners, leaves to to provide remittances of the family, but intermittently disrupt the family structure, this create a valum as often times the children of such families tend to live their lives without the presence of either of their parent.. Bryman, (2016) agreed to this when he observed that out of all married migrants who came to Delhi during 1961-64, 23.7 per cent did not bring their wives even by 1975. One-fifth of all married migrants who came to Delhi before 1950 had their wives living in their place of origin. In six villages of Maharashtra, Heobserved that out of 236 married females who were found without their husbands during 1954, 162 could not join their husbands even after 11 years. The important fact to note here is that the incidence of conjugal separation has increased during the intervening period between 1954-55 to 1965-66.

Lastly, the study also shed light into how migration affect the migrant family economically as this tend to be a source of migrant remittances. This is inline with (Osezua 2011) who opined that Remittances sent by migrants constitute a major source of income for people in Benin City, and a large number of households there are dependent on remittances received from their families in the Global North (Osezua, 2011).

5.2 Conclusion

This study has explored the effects of migration on migrant families in Benin. Remittances appear to increase educational attainment and improved the living standard of household through

employment and business investment. Consistent with this, Giannelli and Mangiavacchi (2010) find that parental migration has a negative impact on school attendance for children left behind. Since men are the ones to migrate in most contexts, much of the literature has focused on the father's contributions to the family and connects the resulting loss when he becomes a migrant to the literature on father absence more broadly (Lahaie et al., 2009)

However, There is considerable increase in inflows of migrant remittances to Nigeria and these remittances have not only improved household standard of living but have become an important source of income for consumption smoothing in Nigeria

5.3 Recommendations

The following are some of the conclusion drawn from the analysis

1. The need for qualitative functional synchronization/reliability between the migrating partner and the families left behind. This is to guide against neglect and cases where migrant partner starts a new life abroad thereby neglecting household left behind
2. Remittances should be sent back to families and spouses, so that upspring from such unions wont be neglected.
3. The government t of the host country should try and put policies in place to force migrating partner to have a sense of responsibility towards his wards left behind.
4. They should try and create jobs in host country, so as to reduce the influx /increase of migration in the county

5. in order to reduce the absence of parent in the life of their wards as a result of migration, migrant families should either make effort to join their counterparts once they are established in the destination country.

6. Migrants should try as much as possible to migrate with their immediate families to avoid neglect

7. In cases where it is impossible to travel with one's immediate families, constant remittances should be made available. Also visitation from time to time should be practiced

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APPENDIX A
QUESTIONNAIRE FOR STUDENTS

Department of Sociology and Anthropology
University of Benin,
Benin City.

Dear Respondent,

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF BENIN
QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear respondent,

I am a graduating student of the above mentioned department and university, carrying out a research on Effects Of Migration On Migrant Families In Benin City as part of the requirements for the completion of my programme.

In order to gather relevant data for the study, it will be highly appreciated if you could respond to these questions as frankly and objectively as possible. All information you supply is strictly for the purpose of the study, and will be treated confidentially.

(Researcher)

Miss vera

SECTION A: BIO-DATA

Please TICK [] the option that best suits your description.

1. **Sex:** Male [] Female []

2. **Age:** Below 20 [] 20 – 30 [] 31 – 40 [] 41- 50 [] 51- above []
3. **Religion:** Islam [] Christianity [] Traditional Religion []
4. **Marital Status:** Single [] Married [] Divorce [] Widow [] Separated []
5. **Education Qualification:** non-formal [] primary [] secondary [] tertiary []

SECTION B

This section is designed to obtain information from respondents on Effects Of Migration On Migrant Families In Benin City. Please indicate your response by ticking (√)

Key:

Strongly Agreed -SA,
 Agreed -A,
 Disagreed- D,
 Strongly Disagreed—SD

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR EFFECTS OF MIGRATION ON MIGRANT FAMILIES IN BENIN CITY

S/N	GENERAL KNOWLEDGE	SA	A	D	SD
1	Migration is the <i>movement of people from one place to another</i> or within a country or between countries				
2	Sometimes some families in Benin city are separated as a result of migration				
3	It could either be the father or the mother who is migrating there by leaving the spouse behind				
4	Migrant families are prevalent in your localities				
	EFFECTS OF MIGRATION ON MARITAL STABILITY OF MIGRANT FAMILIES IN BENIN				
6	Migrant families are better off compared to other families.				
7	The bond between couples may be strengthen when their spouse are migrated				
8	Some families disintegrate after migration of a spouse as a result of infidelity				

9	Migration has little or no effect on migrant families				
10	Migration has huge effect on migrant families				
EFFECTS OF MIGRATION ON PARENTING STYLES AMONG MIGRANT FAMILIES					
11	As a result of the absence of a parent children are raised by single parent				
12	Most often than not, the migrated parent tend to abandon his/her responsibility on the children				
13	Parenting style on migrant families are mostly single parenting				
14	Single parenting may not be the case of migrant families as migrated parent may still contribute equally if not more than the parent present				
15	Children need for both parent are usually neglected in migrant families				
EFFECTS OF MIGRATION ON THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF MIGRANT FAMILIES					
16	Migrant families tend better off compared to other normal families				
17	Families with neglected migrant spouse still maintain a low standard of living				
18	The families of a migrated family member tend to depend on remittances from the migrated spouse				
CAUSATIVE AGENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AMONG PARENTS					
19	A parent may travel and leave his ward as a result of the search of greener pastures for his/her wards				
20	Some wives travel in order to cut ties with their previous families and start a new life abroad				
21	People travel to have an experience of the world after the shores of their previous country				
22	Unemployment could be the reason why some spouse choose to relocate abroad				
23	Migrant remittances is another factor to consider				