EFFECTS OF MANMADE SECURITY THREATS ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA: A STUDY OF ONITSHA NORTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF ANAMBRA STATE

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Abstract
There is a resurgence of manmade security threats in recent time in Nigeria. The frequency and manner in which these threats are being perpetrated are becoming a serious source of concern to all and sundry. The resultant backlash of these threats on sustainable development is better imagined than experienced. Many people lost their lives and others their means of livelihood from the orchestrators of these threats. The most painful of all these is the seemingly inability of government and its security apparatus to checkmate the excesses of these mischief makers. This paper is focused on examining the remote and immediate factors responsible for the resurgence of manmade security threats, examining the consequences of such threats on sustainable development and proffering lasting solutions to the problem at hand. To achieve this, the paper adopted the cross sectional survey design and employed both quantitative and qualitative method of data collection and analysis. A sample size of 400 respondents was selected using the multi stage sampling technique. The need to reappraise the nation’s security architecture has not only become necessary but inevitable. It is in the opinion of this paper that extreme poverty and unemployment are at the root of these threats. Consequently, the researcher recommended that policies that will lead to wealth redistribution should be implemented to ameliorate the sufferings of the people by reducing extreme poverty in the society.

Keywords: Security, poverty, unemployment, wealth redistribution and sustainable development.

Introduction
Security as a concept is a very vital aspect of human existence. The term security was derived from Greek word se-cura, which means to be in state of not being afraid or frightened. From its simplest form, security involves the protection of life and property of an individual(s). Security as a term has many forms. It could be physical, economic, food, health or cyber, religious and even environmental security. The concept of security from the physical point of view involves the protection lives and property. In this paper, security will principally be seen from the point of view of the physical than other forms of it. Physical security entails the protection of lives and property of the individual. According to Buzan (1991:18), “security is pursuit of freedom from threats. This implies that security involves the absence of threats. This then takes us to the second concept in this paper, security threats. Security threat according to Gordon (2000) is anything that threatens the residents of a community or the things they value. Going by this definition, security threats could either be natural or manmade. Natural security threats are those phenomena that threaten the safety of individuals which occur without man’s influence or direct input. For example, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, hurricane etc. Man has no direct control over natural threats. On the other hand, manmade security threats are those actions of man which threaten the peace and safety of man. This paper is anchored on examining the effects of manmade security on sustainable development in Onitsha North LGA. There are very many manmade security threats. These include armed robbery, kidnapping, terrorism, assassination, arson, rape and so on. However, security threats in this paper will emphasize more on armed robbery and kidnapping. This is against the background that the two were the major forms of security threats prevalent in the place of study (Ugwuoke, 2011).

Security threats can effect sustainable development in any given society. When the World Commission on Environment and Development (Brundtland Commission) published its report in 1987, it
presented a new concept - sustainable development. The concept became one of the most successful approaches to be introduced in many years. The Brundtland Commission's report in 1987 defined sustainable development as “development which meets the needs of current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”. Sustainable development supports strong economic and social development, in particular for people with a low standard of living. At the same time it underlines the importance of protecting the natural resource base and the environment.

Statement of Problems

Manmade security threats can hamper the actualization of the goals of sustainable development in human society. The threats from armed robbery and kidnapping have become so much so that people may not be able say which is the most dreaded in the contemporary Nigerian milieu. An unsafe environment is definitely not investment friendly and therefore could retard the developmental agenda of the authorities in the area. Egbefo and Salihu (2014:13) stressed:

Foreign investors become discouraged in investing in nations that will reduce the investors’ competitive advantage due to internal security threat. Nigeria since the intensification of internal security threats has been losing the benefit of the current globalization dividends and phenomenon.

As a consequence of reduction or absence of investment in an area ridden with security threats, many people who are willing to work may not find any and the rate of unemployment which is already high will continue to increase. This in turn will breed more problems in the society. One of which is brain drain where young and able bodied men and women were forced to seek greener pastures outside the shores of this country. Manmade threats are capable of weakening the capital base of a country as is the case in Niger Delta and North eastern region of the Nigerian nation. This may lead to huge budgetary deficits and underdevelopment of the affected areas. The psychological effects on manmade security threats on inhabitants of the area can better be imagined. This breeds atmosphere of mistrust among people and limits people’s ability to engage in meaningful projects that will improve their lives.

Due to decline in business activities as a result of manmade security threats existing infrastructure may become impoverished and dilapidated since they could not be improved upon. The backlash of this is increase in maternal and child mortality rates. Dysfunctional schools and absence of good road network for the people. The worst of the effects of manmade security threats is the loss of lives and property of the individuals in the area. For instance, many people have lost their lives to armed robbery attack in Onitsha North LGA and many kidnapped victims never returned alive even after paying the ransom requested by the kidnappers. The implication is that one is no longer sure of his/her safety. Ugwuoke (2010) argued that apart from armed robbery, kidnapping is perhaps the next most dreaded and feared violent crime in South east Nigeria. Furthermore, Ugwuoke (2011:44-45) stated;

the most frightening and worrisome aspect of these (sic) crimes in Nigeria is not just the torture and the humiliation that victims pass through at the hands of these criminals and the monetary extortion in the name of ransom that usually follow, but the evidently helpless response of security agencies to curbing the menace”.

Manmade security threats are very inimical to sustainable development. They expose the non readiness of the security agencies to act proactively. In view of the above foregoing, this paper is poised to:

1) Identify the factors influencing manmade security threats in Onitsha North LGA.
2) Examine the consequences of manmade security threats on sustainable development in Onitsha North LGA.
3) Suggest ways of reducing the effects of manmade security threats on sustainable development in Onitsha North LGA.

Literature Review

Review of relevant literature will be based on the objectives of the paper as itemized above.

Factors influencing manmade security threats

Several factors have been implicated in literature for being responsible for manmade security threats. This paper identified and explained their roles in effecting sustainable development. Youth unemployment is seen as a major factor responsible for manmade security threats in Nigeria. For instance, Nwanegbo and Odigbo (2013) stressed that youth unemployment seems to have contributed in the rising cases of violent conflict in Nigeria. They argued that unemployment has a severe negative implication on national development in
Nigeria as most of its productive forces are unemployed. This implies that unemployment increases the number of people who are prepared to kill or be killed for a given course at token benefit (Salawu, 2010). Unemployment invariably leads to poverty in the society. Just as Ononogbu (2008: 182) rightly note, “unemployment is a vicious circle that explains the endemic nature of poverty”, as increases in unemployment and on most cases inflation, create poverty amongst people. Furthermore, Oruwari and Owei (2006) contended that unemployment among the youths has steadily increased and the unemployed youth becomes ready-made tool for all forms of vices. This probably account for why many of the unemployed persons may be willing to be used as political thugs. They may eventually become very serious threat to the society as some of them may take to other forms of criminal activities. It is in this vein that Ononogbu (2008) has maintained that it has become a common knowledge that many of the young people now constitute a depleting agent; a huge economic burden and liability instead of a resource because they are not engaged in productive ventures. Similarly, Ogabido (2009) agreed that the issue of poverty and unemployment of youths as well as social injustice and ‘unfair distribution of the nations resources are potent causes of manmade security threats in Nigeria. These factors have caused the youths to engage in criminal activities as a way of getting their share of the nation’s wealth. He blamed the federal government for lack of equity and fairness in the business of governance as well as lack of responsible leadership which have given incentives to people’s yearnings and aspirations.

Materialistic propensity in the country is also one other factor that influence criminal behaviour. Most people want to get rich quick without minding the source of the wealth. To them, the end justifies the means. The issue of “moral decadence” and the “quest to get rich quick” syndrome have been identified as some of the causative factors threatening the security of the common man in Nigeria. For instance, Inyang (2009) argued that in Nigeria, nobody asks questions on how people make their wealth. According to him, a poor person today can show up with an expensive car tomorrow and nobody dares to question the sudden wealth. People who have donated money for developing their communities were often rewarded with chieftaincy titles thereby creating a wrong impression in the minds of Nigerian youths who thereafter take to criminality to make ends meet.

The inconsistency between economic transparency and accountability in the running of normal government affairs and the desire to amass wealth among public office holders at different levels of government often also contribute to the poverty in the society which in turn leads people into criminal behaviour. Absence of good governance at all levels of government in Nigeria has threatened the peace and development of the nation. Pauperization of the masses by political office holders could also account for increase in armed robbery and kidnapping in Onitsha North local government area. Some state governors in Nigeria have not paid workers’ salaries for many months. These people are having families to take care of and their children are expected to go to school and feed just like any other person. This form of scenario is enough to encourage corruption among civil servants. Corruption and misappropriation of funds could lead to security threat in the country. According to Shuaibu, Salleh and Shehu (2015), endemic corruption within the Nigerian security system was responsible for inability of the military to successful fight the Boko Haram terrorists in spite of the billions of Naira which were allocated to defence ministry for the fight against terrorism. That was why a group of soldiers fighting the group in Maiduguri refused to go to the battlefield and insisted that modern weapons must be provided to them before they will engage the terrorists in physical combat on 14th May, 2014. The soldiers maintained that the terrorists had more sophisticated weapons than the Nigerian Army (Shuaibu, Salleh and Shehu, 2015).

Corruption is essentially the product of man’s greed for earthly grandeur, power and authority. It exists when an individual illegally or illicitly puts personal interest above those to the people and the ideals she or he is pledged to serve. Generally the consequences of corruption and unethical practice in Nigeria are multi-dimensional and multi-faceted. The implications are overwhelming and have far reaching negative implications for internal security required for the nations co-existence and development. These consequences include: poor leadership, underdevelopment, unemployment, concentration of wealth on the hands of a few, political instability, internal insecurity and discouragement of foreign investments etc (Egbefo and Salisu, 2014).

Proliferation of small arms and light weapons also contribute to manmade security threats in Nigeria. According to Udeagha (2011), the overwhelming availability of illicit arms is tonics that boost and lure unscrupulous elements in violent garb to perpetrate violent crimes which are morally despicable and socially dehumanizing. The availability of arms have no doubt coloured the patterns of violent crime activity. Small and light weapon is a morale buster and terror guaranteed tool because of its widespread access in many parts of the Nigerian state (Ukandu, 2011).
Consequences of manmade Security Threats on Sustainable Development

The consequences of manmade security threats on sustainable development cannot be overemphasized. It is incontrovertible that an insecure environment is most often hostile and unfriendly to business and investment. No sane and right thinking investor will like to lose his investment or life by investing in volatile and crime infested environment. This is one of the major problems of manmade security threat on sustainable development. Njoku (2010) stressed that there is mass exodus of corporate organizations from the southeast of Nigeria as investors were not ready to make investment in crisis-ridden environment. This is one of the glaring consequences of manmade security threat in the country. Furthermore, Ukandu (2011) stressed that the flight of direct foreign investment is a resultant effect of the massive involvement of youths in kidnapping and armed robbery. This security threats also lead to loss of profit on the part of businessmen and women especially those that engage in perishable item and products that carries expiration date.

Manmade security threats could lead to poor image of the country in the international community. Internal security threat has lowered the image of the country and makes it unattractive in the eyes of the international community. The international community deals with nations with security threat with a lot of deep-seated fear and suspicions. Campbell (2009) commented that Nigeria is no longer respected globally and many investors are forced to relocate to other West African countries due to threat to lives and properties. This has obvious implication on sustainable development in the country.

One of the enormous effects of manmade security threats in Nigeria is that of insecurity of lives and properties. In various robbery and kidnapping incidences, innocents’ citizens were killed, maimed to suffer while one’s livelong savings and sweat were lost within a twinkle of an eye (Abanyam, Bauchi and Tormusa, 2013). Yecho (2010) similarly, laments that a successful robbery entails the direct loss of property on an individual. Such property is transferred from the rightful owner to another Person. Yecho also stated that most violent crimes also lead to the loss of productivity through the incapacity of the victims. Most of the victims of violent crimes are incapacitated, thereby denying the society of their contribution to the output of the nation.

In a related development, Abanyam, Bauchi and Tormusa (2013) stressed that manmade security threats can cause unemployment because robbing of industries and other government establishments (companies) results to retrenchment of workers because of the inability to pay workers salary. Armed robbery and kidnapping increase the level of poverty in Nigeria. For instance, in a situation where armed robbers or kidnappers killed the breadwinner of the family, that will subject the whole family into poverty (absolute poverty) and thus increase the level of poverty in the society. Again, Yecho (2010:23) summarized these effects thus:

- There is also the social cost dimension. People no longer go out at specific periods to interact and carry out social activities/functions. Everybody becomes suspicious of one another. In a society where everyone is suspicious of each other, where movement is restricted for the fear of criminal victimization, there can be no meaningful development and progress. Finally, there is also a physical cost dimension to incidences of violent crimes. Robbery and kidnap could result to death or permanent disability of the victim.

Form the foregoing, it could be said that manmade security threats have very devastating consequences on sustainable development not only in Onitsha North local government area but also in the country in general.

Ways of reducing the effects of manmade security threats on sustainable development

It is a common knowledge that if nothing is done to mitigate the effects of manmade security threats on sustainable development in Nigeria, the country will retrograde to situation obtainable in failed states like Somalia, Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan. It is imperative that urgent steps must be taken to assuage these threats. One of the basic means of controlling and reducing the effects of manmade security threats in a society could be by having good governance at all levels of the society. This entails having purposeful and selfless leadership. Good governance presupposes the ability to be transparent and accountable to the people. This in turn will lead to prudent management of resources in such a way that basic needed facilities could be provided for the people (Ikezue, 2014).

The government and the private sector should promote rural development, including sustainable agricultural programme and management of natural resources this will go a long way in providing employment for millions of our youths that want to stay and earn a living in the rural areas (Agbaje 2009). Skill acquisition centres already created must be made viable. More centres for acquisition of information technological capabilities should be made readily available to the people (Ikezue, 2016).

The law enforcement agencies in the country should change their manner of operation. Crimes are better prevented than controlled. In this sense, the intelligence gathering abilities of the security agencies
should be improved upon. State of the art communication and security gadgets should be used to detect and prevent crime. This calls for professionalism and dedication to duty on the part of the security agencies. Government should increase (recruit) the number of well-trained police and provide them with modern technical equipments such as helicopters, effective communication devices, surveillance cameras, sophisticated armed and ammunitions, trained dogs, adequate patrol vehicles, etc (Abanyam, Bauchi and Tormusa, 2013).

Value reorientation is very necessary if manmade security threats can be minimized. In this respect, People should de-emphasize the unnecessary materialistic propensity. People should start to become contented with what they have. The society starting from one’s immediate family should start questioning the sources of sudden and inexplicable wealth and affluence. In this regards the appropriate authorities should be notified of any suspicious outburst of affluence. Chieftaincy and traditional titles should be given based on integrity and not on mere economic consideration alone (Ikezue, 2013).

Efforts should be put in place towards ensuring wealth redistribution. The very wealthy ones should be made to part with a major part of their earnings in support of the down trodden and unemployed ones in the country. This may be implemented by taxing the very wealthy ones in the society heavily and then use the proceeds to create wealth and jobs for the jobless and the needy persons in the society.

No wrong doer should go unpunished. Mischief makers who threaten the peace and safety of people should be brought to book. Any person caught for armed robbery or kidnapping should feel the full weight of the law. The criminal justice system must be proactive in carrying out its responsibilities. Cases should not be delayed unnecessarily. Erring judges and law enforcement officers should be penalized accordingly.

Moreover, all Nigerians citizens should volunteer information that could lead to arrest of suspected criminals. The police on the other hand must establish a friendly relationship with the public so that members of the public would be able to volunteer information confidentially. Such volunteers or agents must not be exposed by the police because they may be targeted by the criminals. Security involves both the police (other security agents) and the public (Abanyam, Bauchi and Tormusa, 2013).

A total restructuring of the productions and reward system so that those who engage in production even in the level of rural peasants get appropriate reward for their activities rather than over inflating the economy through bogus remunerations and allowances to politically elected or appointed officials. Inflations must be controlled. Multinational cooperation must be kept in check and profit made reinvested in the country for further development (Egbefo and Salisu, 2014).

**Theoretical Framework**

Merton’s Anomie theory of crime constitutes the theoretical framework for this paper. Anomie theory advances the core idea that elements in society’s structure promote deviance by making deviant behaviour a viable adaptation to living in the society (Aday, 1990). The theory describes deviance as a result of certain social structural strains that pressure individuals to become deviant. Sociologist Robert Merton (1968) originally proposed this view as a general theory in the 1930s. Modern industrial societies create strains by emphasizing status goals like material success, in the form of wealth and education, while simultaneously limiting institutional access to certain segments of society. Important status goals remain inaccessible to many groups, including the poor, the lower class, and certain racial and ethnic groups who suffer discrimination, such as blacks and Chicanos. Anomie develops as a result of an acute disjunctive between culturally valued goals and the legitimate means through which society allows certain groups to achieve those goals. Cultural assumptions generally expect members to achieve success goals by legitimate means—through regular employment, relatively well-paid occupations, and completion of education. These channels, however, exclude certain members of society. Thus, while everyone learns to aspire to the “American dream” of financial success, in reality the social structure can provide opportunities for only a small number, so it reserves this dream for a few favoured members.

Anomie is the social condition that results from emphasizing success goals much more strongly than the acceptable means by which people might achieve them. Consequently, some persons feel compelled to achieve them through illegitimate means, including forms of deviance such as armed robbery and kidnapping. Others turn to alcoholism or addiction, and some fall victim to mental disorders when they fail to achieve general social goals. In attempting to explain these forms of deviant behaviour, anomie theory has pointed out that official rates of deviance peak among poor people and members of the lower class, who encounter the greatest pressure for deviation and only limited opportunities to acquire material goods and higher education (Clinard, 1964).
Of the prescribed adaptations posited by Merton, the innovationists are the ones that are of interest to this paper. Innovation is an adaptation to anomie that works toward culturally prescribed goals of success by illegitimate means such as theft, burglary, robbery, Kidnapping, organized crime, or prostitution. Anomie theory describes this response as “normal” where society limits access to success through conventional means (Merton, 1968: 199). As evidence, Merton has cited the prevalence of crime and delinquency in the lower strata of society. The poor find their opportunities largely restricted to manual labour, which often carries a social stigma. Low status and income prevent them from competing for goals measured by established standards of worth. Therefore, they may likely engage in crime as an alternative way to achieve those goals. In this sense, manmade security threats occur in the human society due to the limited opportunities open to those people who wanted to achieve cultural goals without recourse to the institutionalized means of attaining them. Kidnappers and armed robbers in Onitsha North and in Nigeria are probably people who could not attain cultural goals legitimately but however devised illegitimate means of attaining them in the society.

Weaknesses of Anomie Theory

The Assumption of Universality: Anomie theory assumes universal standards that distinguish legitimate means of pursuing social goals from illegitimate ones. This assumption is invalid, for definitions of delinquent and criminal acts vary in time and place.

Class Bias: Anomie theory also assumes that deviant behaviour concentrates disproportionately in the lower class. The theory justifies this assumption by reasoning that members of the lower class experience the greatest gap between pressures to succeed and the reality of low achievement. Considerable evidence certainly suggests a disproportionate likelihood that members of the lower class and minority groups will become detected and labelled as delinquents, criminals, alcoholics, drug addicts, and mental patients as compared to members of the middle and upper classes who may engage in the same behaviour.

Simplicity of Explanation: While some individuals may feel pressure that resembles the strain of anomie, many other factors clearly influence deviant acts as well. Although some deviants undoubtedly experience frustration when they cannot legitimately achieve success goals, most deviant acts arise out of interaction with others. These audiences may serve as reference groups for deviants and provide advice that the individual values. Many deviant acts, in fact, result from efforts to fulfill role expectations rather than adaptations to disjunctives between goals and means.

The Trouble with Retreatism: Anomie theory states that some deviants adapt means to goals through retreatism. This explanation lacks precision and oversimplifies a much more complex process through which alcoholism, drug addiction, mental disorder, and suicide develop. These shortcomings notwithstanding, anomie theory offers a very good explanation on why some people engage in criminal acts such as kidnapping and armed thereby threatening the peace and safety of others.

Methodology

This paper adopted the cross sectional survey design. The study area is Onitsha North Local Government Area. Onitsha North LGA has a population of one hundred and twenty five thousand, nine hundred and eighteen (125918) according to the 2006 national population census. Of this figure, sixty one thousand, five hundred and eighty eight (61588) are males while sixty four thousand, three hundred and thirty are females. However, the target population are those people who are 20 years and above. They are sixty seven thousand, seven hundred and fifty two. Yamane’s sample size determination formula was adopted and it gave a sample size of 400. Consequently, the quantitative analysis of this paper would be carried out with a sample size of 400 respondents. The sample size was further categorized into eight distinct occupation categories. These include the traders, artisans, civil servants, students, drivers, members of the vigilante, doctors and lawyers. Fifty (50) persons were selected from each of these eight distinct population categories. Ten persons were interviewed for the in depth interview. They consist of five males and five female persons who are knowledgeable enough on the happenings in Onitsha North LGA. Statistical Packages for the Social Sciences (SPSS) version 16 was used for processing quantitative data collected from the field. The data were presented in frequency tables and percentages. The qualitative data were transcribed and analyzed using content analysis and descriptive quotes.

Data Presentation and Analysis

Table 1: Socio-Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of respondents by sex</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>53.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>46.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
It is shown in table 1 that (53.8%) of the respondents are males whereas (46.2%) of them are females. This implies that there are more males than females in the distribution. The distribution of the respondents by age has a mean age of 37.98 years, a standard error of mean of .539, a median age of 36 and a modal age of 34 years. The distribution also has a standard deviation of 10.500, a variance of 110.240, a minimum age of 20 years and a maximum age of 67 years. The table shows that (34.3%) of the respondents are 30 to 39 years whereas (.5%) of them are 60 years and above. The table also shows that (69.7%) of the respondents were married while (1.6%) of them were widowed.

It could be seen from table1 that (23.7%) of the respondents had only secondary school education while (6.9%) of them had no formal education. The table also showed that (13.2%) of the respondents were artisans whereas (11.9%) of them were lawyers. Finally, the table showed that (40.6%) of the respondents earn from 0 to ₦500, 000.00 naira annually while (9%) of them earned an annual income of ₦1, 500,001.00 to ₦2, 000,000.00 naira annually.

**Table2: Respondents’ views on the commonest form of manmade security threat in their community**
Table 2 shows that Kidnapping and armed robbery were the commonest forms of manmade security threats in Onitsha North LGA with (43%) and (39%) of the respondents affirming it respectively. Participants for the in depth interviews also agreed that kidnapping and armed robbery were the commonest manmade security threats in the area. One of the participants in the in depth interview, a 67 year old retired female secondary school principal from Federal Housing Estate stated;

There are many forms of threats in this town. The most common among them are armed robbery and kidnapping. These two crimes are more common. We do not have bomb blast here as is the case in some states in the country. Our major fear is armed robbery and kidnapping because it can happen anytime.

Table 3: Respondents' views on factors responsible for security threats in their community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Valid Percent</th>
<th>Cumulative Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arson</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidnapping</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>43.0</td>
<td>43.0</td>
<td>50.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assassination</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>58.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armed robbery</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>39.3</td>
<td>39.3</td>
<td>98.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrorism</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.3</td>
<td>.3</td>
<td>98.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Most of the respondents in table 3 stated that Poverty and unemployment were the factors responsible for security threats in their community. This represent (34.8%) and (46.2%) of the respondents respectively. Most of the participants for the in depth interview stated that the twin evil of poverty and unemployment were responsible for manmade security threats in the community. However, a 65 year old male opinion leader from New Nkisi road averred that many things could be responsible for the threats in the town. He said;

People are not always contented with what they have. People will always want to have more even when the means is not there. Many people go into crimes because of greediness. They want to become rich overnight. These people failed to understand that working hard will help them meet their basic needs. To me, greed and the desire to become rich are the reasons why some people take to crimes.

Another participant in the in depth interview, a 56 year old male senior civil servant from Ozalla Layout stressed;

I think the society is forcing people into crime. How can you explain the fact that people worship wealthy men as if they are gods. Once you have money in this town, nobody cares to know how you got it. You will be celebrated. This is one of the reasons many people will be willing to do anything to get money. Many people want to be celebrated so they devise means of getting money so that the society will celebrate them.
Table 4: Respondents’ views on the frequency of the threats in their community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Valid Percent</th>
<th>Cumulative Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Always</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Once in a while</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>42.5</td>
<td>42.5</td>
<td>52.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>61.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occasionally</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>38.5</td>
<td>38.5</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey, 2016

In table 4, (42.5%) of the respondents maintained that security threats take place once in a while in their community while (9.5%) of them said the threats take place always. The participants in the in depth interviews were not unanimous on the frequency of security threats in their community. Some of them argued that it happens always others said it does not happen always but sometimes. Some of the even said it seldom happens.

Table 5: Respondents’ views on whether or not they have ever been threatened in their community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Valid Percent</th>
<th>Cumulative Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>23.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>76.5</td>
<td>76.5</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey, 2016

It could be seen from table 5 that (76.5%) of the respondents have never been threatened in Onitsha North LGA while (23.5%) of the stressed that they have ever been threatened before in the area. Almost all the participants for the in depth interviews said they were never threatened before. It is only one of the participants for the in depth interview, a 58 year old female secondary school teacher from GRA in Onitsha who said she was threatened on two separate occasions. According to her;

The first time I had encounter with armed robbers was ten years ago when I was living at Okpoko. The armed robbers were many. They forced us to open our doors and stole all our money. They even raped my female friend who visited me that day. Some people refused to open their doors and the robbers broke the doors and beat those people seriously. Two years ago we were robbed in a bus at night time by some armed robbers who disguised themselves as fellow passengers. Those two experiences were very horrible. I do not like to remember them again.

Table 6: Respondents’ views on the consequences of manmade security threats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Valid Percent</th>
<th>Cumulative Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>loss of life and property</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>51.2</td>
<td>51.2</td>
<td>51.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It creates poverty</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>15.6</td>
<td>15.6</td>
<td>66.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fear and being suspicious of people around</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>77.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relocation of businesses to safe havens</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>88.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It scare away investors</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Most of the respondents in table 6 (51.2%) stressed that loss of life and property are the consequences of manmade security threat whereas (10.8%) of them maintained that the consequences of manmade security threats include fear and being suspicious of people around and relocation of businesses to safe havens. Participants in the in depth interview contended that loss of life and property were the major consequence of manmade security threats. However, the
65 year old male opinion leader from Omagba Phase 2 stressed; The major consequence of security threats to this town is fear. You cannot sleep very well because you are afraid that something evil will happen. This fear has made some of my customers from the northern part of this country to stop coming to Onitsha. They are afraid that they may be harmed. So fear is a major problem here.

**Table 7: Respondents’ views on what they can do to curb security threats**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Valid Percent</th>
<th>Cumulative Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reporting any suspicious movement/person to the law enforcement agents</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>50.7</td>
<td>50.7</td>
<td>50.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Being security conscious</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>21.6</td>
<td>21.6</td>
<td>72.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restriction of movement</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>88.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staying away from social gatherings and parties</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Field Survey, 2016*

Most of the respondents in table 7 (50.7%) said they will report any suspicious movement/person to law enforcement agents while (11.9%) of them stressed that they will stay away from social gatherings and parties. Most of the participants for the in depth interviews stressed that they will alert the security personnel on what is happening and also make efforts to protect themselves.

**Table 8: Respondents’ views on ways of curbing security threats in their community**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Valid Percent</th>
<th>Cumulative Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creation of job opportunity and skill acquisition centres</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>25.3</td>
<td>25.3</td>
<td>25.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value reorientation</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>49.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wealth redistribution</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>62.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving on the efficiency and effectiveness of law enforcement personnel</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>73.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good governance</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>88.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing the severity and certainty of punishment</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Field Survey, 2016*

In table 8, (25.3%) of the respondents stressed that creation of job opportunity and skill acquisition centres will assist in curbing security threats in their community whereas (11.1%) of them maintained that increasing the severity and certainty of punishment will assist in curbing security threats in the community. Most of the participants for the in depth interviews opined that Security threats could be reduced by having most people meaningfully engaged. Some of them also stressed that attitudinal change will also help people to curb the desire to go into crime. One of the participants for the interview, a 66 year old female retired police officer from New cemetery road suggested; Government should have a way of making life bearable to people. Enabling environment should be created for business to thrive. People with questionable wealth should be made to explain the source of their wealth. Then, hardworking individuals should be rewarded and society should place less emphasis on materialism.

**Discussion of Findings**
It was found in this paper that the commonest manmade security threats in Onitsha North LGA are armed robbery and Kidnapping. However, other threats also exist alongside these commonest ones; they include arson, assassination and rape. This finding agrees with findings from the qualitative instrument which showed that kidnapping and armed robbery were the commonest manmade security threats in Onitsha North LGA. This is consistent with Ugwuoke (2010) when he argued that apart from armed robbery, kidnapping is perhaps the next most dreaded and feared violent crime in South east Nigeria. This has very serious implication on sustainable development because people will not like to invest in areas where their safety cannot be guaranteed.

The paper also found that poverty and unemployment were the major factors influencing security threats in Onitsha North LGA. Furthermore, greed, corruption and poor governance were also seen as influencing security threats in the area. This finding also agreed with the responses from the in depth interview where the participants concurred that poverty and unemployment were responsible for security threats in Onitsha North LGA. This finding agrees with Nwanegbo and Odigbo (2013) who stressed that unemployment has a severe negative implication on national development in Nigeria as most of its productive forces are unemployed. The finding is also consistent with Ononogbu (2008: 182) who contended that “unemployment is a vicious circle that explains the endemic nature of poverty”, as increases in unemployment and on most cases inflation, create poverty amongst people. The finding is also corroborated by Oruwari and Owei (2006) who contended that unemployment among the youths has steadily increased and the unemployed youth becomes ready-made tool for all forms of vices. This probably account for why many of the unemployed persons may be willing to be used as political thugs. They may eventually become very serious threat to the society as some of them may take to other forms of criminal activities. These activities of the youths have very horrifying influence on sustainable development. This is against the background that no meaningful development can take place in a society infested with many security threats.

This paper found that security threats take place once in a while and also occasionally. That does not rule out the possibility of having them always in some case. At other times it may not occur at all. This finding also agree with the responses from the in depth interview where some of the participants said manmade security threats do not happen always. However, a good number of them maintained that security threats happen always in Onitsha North LGA.

It was found in this paper that many people in Onitsha North LGA have never been threatened before while a few of them said they had been threatened before. This finding agrees with the one from the qualitative data where almost all the participants said they had never been threatened before in Onitsha North LGA.

Loss of life and property were found to be the major consequence of manmade security threats in Onitsha North LGA. Other consequences include poverty, being suspicious of people around, scaring away of investors and relocation of businesses to safer havens. This finding is consistent with the one from the qualitative data where the participants contended that loss of life and property were the major consequences of manmade security threats in Onitsha North LGA. This finding is corroborated by Njoku (2010) who stressed that there is mass exodus of corporate organizations from the southeast of Nigeria as investors were not ready to make investment in crisis-ridden environment. This is one of the glaring consequences of manmade security threat in the country. The finding also supports Ukedu (2011) who maintained that the flight of direct foreign investment is a resultant effect of the massive involvement of youths in kidnapping and armed robbery. This security threats also lead to loss of profit on the part of businessmen and women especially those that engage in perishable item and products that carries expiration date.

The finding is incongruent with Abanyam, Bauchi and Tormusa (2013) who argued that one of the enormous effects of manmade security threats in Nigeria is that of insecurity of lives and properties. In various robbery and kidnapping incidences, innocents’ citizens were killed, maimed to suffer while one’s livelihood savings and sweat were lost within a twinkling of an eye (Abanyam, Bauchi and Tormusa, 2013). This is also supported by Yecho (2010) who lamented that a successful robbery entails the direct loss of property on an individual. Such property is transferred from the rightful owner to another Person. Yecho also stated that most violent crimes also lead to the loss of productivity through the incapacity of the victims. Most of the victims of violent crimes are incapacitated, thereby denying the society of their contribution to the output of the nation.

The finding further agrees with Abanyam, Bauchi and Tormusa (2013) who said that manmade security threats can cause unemployment because robbing of industries and other government establishments (companies) results to retrenchment of workers because of the inability to pay workers salary. Armed robbery and kidnapping increase the level of poverty in Nigeria. For instance, in a situation where armed
robbers or kidnappers killed the breadwinner of the family, that will subject the whole family into poverty (absolute poverty) and thus increase the level of poverty in the society. Finally, this finding is in support of Yecho (2010) who further commented that there is also the social cost dimension to manmade security threats. People no longer go out at specific periods to interact and carry out social activities/functions. Everybody becomes suspicious of one another. In a society where everyone is suspicious of each other, where movement is restricted for the fear of criminal victimization, there can be no meaningful development and progress. There is also a physical cost dimension to incidences of violent crimes. Robbery and kidnap could result to death or permanent disability of the victim.

This paper found that most people will likely report any suspicious movement/person to the law enforcement agents. However, it also found that being security conscious, restriction of movement and staying away from social gatherings and parties are ways people can curb manmade security threats on their own. The finding also agrees with the responses from the in depth interviews where the participants agreed that will alert security personnel on what is going on their community. In this paper, it was found that manmade security threats can be curbed by creating job opportunity and skill acquisition centres, value reorientation and wealth redistribution. The paper also found that improving on the efficiency and effectiveness of law enforcement personnel, good governance and increasing the severity and certainty of punishment could go a long way to curbing manmade security threats in Onitsha North LGA. This finding is supported by the responses of the in depth interview participants who maintained that manmade security threats could be reduced by having most people meaningfully engaged. It was also found that attitudinal change could also reduce the desire to go into crime. These findings are consistent with Ikezue (2014) who stressed that good governance presupposes the ability to be transparent and accountable to the people. This in turn will lead to prudent management of resources in such a way that basic needed facilities could be provided for the people. The findings also agreed with Abanyam, Bauchi and Tormusa (2013) who said that government should increase (recruit) the number of well-trained police and provide them with modern technical equipments such as helicopters, effective communication devices, surveillance cameras, sophisticated armed and ammunitions, trained dogs, adequate patrol vehicles, etc.

Furthermore, the findings are in support of Ikezue (2013) who advocated for value reorientation and need to deemphasize unnecessary materialistic propensity. Lastly but not the least, the findings agree with Abanyam, Bauchi and Tormusa (2013) who also averred that Nigerian citizens should volunteer information that could lead to arrest of suspected criminals. The police on the other hand must establish a friendly relationship with the public so that members of the public would be able to volunteer information confidentially. Such volunteers or agents must not be exposed by the police because they may be targeted by the criminals. Security involves both the police (other security agents) and the public.

Conclusion
Manmade security threats are capable destroying everything the society was able to achieve for so many years. There are several forms of manmade security threats in the country. However, this paper placed more emphasis on armed robbery and kidnapping which were the most widespread manmade security threats in Onitsha North LGA. Several people lost their lives and properties to these threats. People were forced to avoid certain places at odd hours and movement of people were seriously restricted due to the fear of these threats. It then becomes very imperative that all hands must be on deck if these threats are to be mitigated so as to ensure sustained developmental strides in the Nigerian society. The law enforcement agencies appear to be lagging behind and government seems not to be aware of how best to control the situation. It is in this sense that it is deemed necessary that people should take their security in their hands and assist government in making the society safe for living.

Recommendations
In view of the findings of this paper, the following recommendations were made; There is need for attitudinal change. It could be in the form of value reorientation. People need to emphasize more on integrity and intensification of efforts towards being productive and creative. Undue materialism should be deemphasized.
Sources of wealth should be questioned and corrupt persons either in government or in the organized private sector should be prosecuted accordingly. In this regard, the anti-graft agencies should endeavour to be proactive in the discharge of their duties.
The unemployed persons should be meaningfully engaged. It could be through outright job creation or establishment of skill acquisition centres. Soft loans should be provided for people who will go into large scale farming or into small and medium scale enterprises.
The security agencies need to live above board. Their efficiency and effectiveness should be improved upon. Use of state of the art technological devices for intelligence gathering and aerial surveillance should be improved on.
The public should demand for good governance. Government should endeavour to provide for the need of the people. This will assist in curbing the spread of manmade security threats.
References


