
**LEGAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF CHILD LABOUR
AMONG ROOTS AND GRAIN CROPS FARMING HOUSEHOLDS IN
THE FOREST SAVANAH TRANSITION ZONE, ENUGU STATE,
NIGERIA**

Boniface D. Umoh¹

Daniel Ndukwe Ekea²

Institute for Development Studies
University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus
Enugu State, Nigeria

ABSTRACT

Despite policies and laws against child labour in Nigeria, enforcement mostly focuses on large manufacturing companies and government agencies. The peasant agricultural sector is often overlooked because farms are fragmented and located in inaccessible rural locations or erroneously considered insignificant. This study investigated the prevalence and determinants of child labour among roots and grain crop farming households in Enugu State. The study adopted the cross-sectional survey research design. 395 grains and roots crop peasant farmers were randomly selected from rural locations across Enugu State for the study. Data were analysed using tables, frequency counts, and percentages. Findings showed that children account for 60.62% of the workforce used in the root and grain crop farming activities of rural households. The practice was socially acceptable in the rural areas, and families see nothing wrong with the practice. 50.64% of the children combined schooling and farm work, with 51.91% performing all crop farming activities. Child labour was highest among females (52.69%) than male children (47.31%). It was found that shortage of adult labourers was a major factor propelling families to rely on children for farm work. This was because these families could not afford the high labour charges demanded by adults. Aside from the economic dimension, most families were ignorant of existing laws and policies against child labour. Based on these, it was concluded that legislation alone cannot stop child labour. This is because most parents see child labour as the only option left for them to earn a living or supplement family income. It is therefore recommended that a holistic redress of the development imbalance between the rural and urban areas in Nigeria, so as to keep the able-bodied men away from out migration. This pragmatic solution if implemented would limit child labour and advance human capital as well as reduce inter-generational poverty.

Keywords: Child labour, Rural Households, Crop Farming, Root and Grain Crops

1. Introduction

The status of children and other vulnerable groups in any country is indicative of its level of social progress and development. Children less than 17 years of age are expected to be enrolled in school. However, in some countries and cultures, not all children are fortunate to be in school for the foundation education. They are rather found in the fields, factories or other settings doing menial work meant for adults. Depending on the circumstances of engagement, the children may be paid or not, forced or rewarded in other ways or doing so at the instance of the family. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO, 2018), child labour is work that is inappropriate for a child's age and that negatively impacts their education or health, safety, and morals. The effects of child labour on children's health, education, and social-emotional development have prompted global initiatives such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 8, Target 7, which seeks to eliminate the worst forms of child labour by 2025.

Child labourers may be paid in kind or cash or work within own family businesses or other work settings outside the family. As of 2020, approximately 160 million children worldwide (63 million girls and 97 million boys) were involved in child labour, with the highest rates found in Sub-Saharan Africa, where nearly one in four children aged 5-17 are engaged in child labour (FAO, 2018). In Nigeria, child labour is widespread. Available statistics shows that nearly 40% of Nigerian children are engaged in child labour, with rural children being disproportionately affected (ILO & NBS, 2024). This negates existing legal, social and economic norms of the society. There are national and State laws in Nigeria that prohibit child labour. These include the Child Rights Act 2003 and the Labour Act 2004. Others include the Child Rights Protection and Responsibility Law 2016 and the National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour.

Enugu State is not without the problem of Child labour. The State has a prevalent rate of 34 % (National Bureau of Statistics, 2024). This is against legal, economic and social expectations. The situation is compounded by high levels of poverty, with over 70% of Enugu's rural population classified as multi-dimensionally poor (NBS, 2022). This situation makes it difficult for families to prioritize child education over household survival. Yet, addressing child labour is crucial not only for the well-being of the child but also for breaking the cycle of poverty in the household as well for wholesome human capital development of these future leaders.

In view of the pervasiveness of the problem, many scholars have over the years investigated some aspects of the subject. For Instance, Agbo (2017) investigated health and educational consequences of Child Labour in Nigeria. On their part, Omeje, Okpukara, and Ihemezie (2020), investigated the predisposing factors to child labour in Enugu State. While Enebe, Enebe, Agunwa, Ossa, Ezeoke, Idoko and Mbachu (2020), explored the prevalence and predictors of child labour

among junior secondary school students in Enugu, Nigeria. In another study, Ume, Ezeano and Nnadozie (2018), investigated the determinants of child labour in crop production in Anambra State. These previous studies were on agriculture generally as distinct from the current study that is interested in grain and root crop farming households in Enugu State. This focus on specific crop type is important because each crop type has different work specificity and duration. Besides, Enugu State has made basic education free, compulsory, and universal which literally removed the barriers that some parents would face against sending the children to acquire basic education. Enugu State is also among the few states that have consolidated on the Child Rights Act 2003, and the Enugu State Child Rights and Responsibility Law 2016, which aim to prohibit child labour and protect children's rights. In spite of these efforts, a casual observation on the streets in both rural communities as well as urban locations across Enugu State reveal a sizeable number of children that are not in school. Given that Enugu State is an agricultural State which absorbs about 70% of its work force, there is need to conduct sector specific studies regarding child labour. This is predicated on the fact that most government labour laws appear to clamp down against the practice of child labour in large manufacturing factories, while overlooking peasant agriculture which in the circumstance of Enugu State employs a large number of persons and are often hidden from the lenses of the law. The farmlands may locate in obscure and sometimes inaccessible locations across the rural areas in the State. Therefore, this study seeks to provide answers to the following questions:

- i. To what extent has the existing legal provisions discouraged child labour in grains and root crops farming sub sector in Enugu State?
- ii. How socially acceptable is the use of child labour in root and grain crop farming activities in Enugu State?
- iii. What are the economic determinants of child labour use in root and grain crop farming activities in rural households of Enugu State?

The study is guided by the following specific objectives:

- i. To ascertain the extent of the use of child labour in root and grain crop farming activities in rural households of Enugu State in spite of existing laws.
- ii. To determine the extent of social acceptability of child labour use in grains, root crop farming activities in Enugu State
- iii. To identify the economic determinants of child labour in the grains and root crop farming in Enugu State.

To achieve these objectives, the paper has been structured into six sections with the introduction as section one. Section two is the literature review. While section three discusses the methodology of the paper, section four is the data analysis. Section five is the result presentation and discussion of findings. Section six forms the concluding and policy recommendation of the paper.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Conceptual Review

Child Labour

According to UNICEF (2019), a child aged 5-11 who works for at least one hour of economic work or 28 hours of domestic work per week is considered to be involved in child labour.

Poverty

Many poor families rely on income earned by their children when they work for others outside the family to support the family. When, the child works on the family farms, he/she relieves the parents off the burden of labour charges. Poverty is thus a factor that drives child labour.

Cultural Norms

The attitude of the society towards child labour supports the practice. When the society sees nothing wrong with it, the practice thrives. Added to this is the level of education.

2.2 Theoretical Review

The Rational Choice theory

The rational choice theory is largely credited to Adam Smith (1776). The theory posited that individuals make decisions based on a rational evaluation of costs and benefits. In the case of child labour, both parents and children may make rational choices based on the social, economic, and political constraints they face (Oluyemi, Abubakar, Abdulateef, Atolagbe, Adejoke and Motolani, 2018). For parents, engaging children in labour may appear as the best option to meet household needs when faced with limited resources. Similarly, children may choose to work to support their families or because of perceived gaps in governance or opportunities for education. Critics argued that the theory overemphasizes rational decision-making at the expense of emotional, social, and psychological factors that influence behaviour. Nonetheless, the theory is useful in explaining why families in impoverished communities may resort to child labour as a strategic, albeit detrimental, choice for economic survival. This theory was adopted for the study.

2.3 Empirical Literature

The International Labour Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund (ILO and UNICEF, 2021), report on Child labour 2020, survey shows the magnitude of the problem. The report is based on data from over 100 different household surveys across more than 70 countries, covering approximately two-thirds of the global child population (ages 5-17). The report revealed that 160 million children were engaged

in child labour worldwide, with 63 million girls and 97 million boys involved. In other words, the report noted that nearly 1 in 10 children globally are into child labour. The report further showed a gender disparity in child labour. More boys (11.2%), than girls are engaged in child labour (7.8%). The study also found that child labour is disproportionately prevalent in rural areas, with 13.9% (122.7 million) rural children in child labour compared to 4.7% (37.3 million) urban children.

The 2022 Nigeria Child Labour and Forced Labour Survey, conducted by the International Labour Organization and the National Bureau of Statistics (ILO & NBS, 2024), provided comprehensive estimates of child labour at national, regional, and state levels. The survey engaged 16,650 households across 1,110 enumeration areas (EAs) in both urban and rural regions of Nigeria. A stratified two-stage sampling technique was employed to select the households, and children aged 5 to 17. The study found that 50.5% of children aged 5 to 17 were engaged in economic activities, with 39.2% (about 24.7 million children) involved in child labour. 22.9% (more than 14 million children) were found to be working in hazardous conditions. The survey found that male children were slightly more likely to be involved in child labour (39.6%) than female children (38.8%). A stark contrast between rural and urban areas was observed, with 44.8% of children in rural areas engaged in child labour compared to 30.0% in urban areas. Hazardous work was also more prevalent in rural regions, with over 10.5 million children in rural areas engaged in hazardous labour (26.8%) compared to 4 million in urban areas. Agriculture (56.8%) was the most common sector in which children were employed.

In the social aspect, Olukemi (2017), investigated the perception and Practice of Child Labour in South-Western Nigeria. The survey method was used. The objectives of the study were to: investigate the perception and practice of child labour in the area, and to examine the relationship between socioeconomic factors and child labour practices in the State. He found a statistically significant relationship between income status of households and child labour engaged their children more in child labour. Nwazuoke and Igwe (2016), in their study” titled Worst Forms of Child Labour in Nigeria; An Appraisal of International and Local Legal Regimes”, documented the worst forms of labour in the Country as well as the various laws against these practices.

Oluwakemi (2025) investigated the role of International Laws in Shaping National Responses to Child Labour in Nigeria. His interest was on the legislative contradictions between Nigeria's labour act 2004) and Child right act 2003. Of particular interest was the contradicting minimum working ages of 12 and 18 years respectively, which leaves room for exploitation of the child.

In terms of the economic factors in child labour, Enebe et al. (2020), explored the prevalence and predictors of child labour among junior secondary school students in Enugu, Nigeria. It used a cross-sectional research design. The sample size was 332.

Instrument for data collection was a structured, interviewer-administered questionnaires. Hypotheses were tested with chi square at 5% level of significance. They found a high prevalence of child labour (71.1%) among respondents, with domestic (52.1%) and economic (34.0%) child labour being the most common forms. Furthermore, 35.2% of respondents reported working under hazardous conditions, and 8.1% stated they were forced into labour. The study also found that child labour was driven by poverty, with children from wealthier families less likely to engage in labour. Key predictors of child labour included the age of students ($p < 0.001$), class ($p = 0.003$), and weekly income ($p < 0.001$). Class and weekly income were identified as significant predictors, with children in lower classes and those from lower-income households being more likely to engage in child labour.

Yet, in another study bothering on the economic conditions of the households as a predictor of child labour, Ume et al. (2018) studied the determinants of child labour in crop production in Anambra State, using a multistage random sampling technique to select 100 respondents. The study employed structured questionnaires to gather data, revealing that 76% of the children sampled were involved in agricultural activities. The study found that the average age of these children was 15 years, with 12.45 years of education and an average household size of 8 persons. It was found that the older the household head, the more likely children were to be involved in farming, as the household head's physical capacity to perform manual labour decreased with age. Other significant determinants of child labour included credit constraints and the educational levels of household heads, which were positively associated with child labour.

Based on the reviewed studies, it is obvious that most studies were carried out to cover all aspects of agriculture while the current study is on grain and root crop farming only. Besides, the time, social and economic conditions in the country have changed which may impinge on the practice of child labour. The study fills this gap.

3. Methodology

Study Location

This study was conducted in Enugu State, Nigeria. It is located between latitudes $5^{\circ}56'$ and $7^{\circ}06'$ north of the equator, and longitudes $6^{\circ}53'$ and $7^{\circ}55'$ east of the Greenwich Meridian (Anugwa & Nwobodo, 2020). The state covers an area of 7,161 km². It is bounded by Abia and Imo to the south, Ebonyi to the east, Benue to the northeast, Kogi to the northwest, and Anambra to the west. Enugu State has a population of 4,411,119, composed of 2,249,670 males and 2,161,448 females (NPC, 2016). The State experiences two major seasons: the rainy season (April to October) and the dry season (November to March), and is situated in the humid transitional forest zone, which is characterized by fertile soils that support agricultural activities. As a result, a significant proportion of the rural population in Enugu engages in

peasant farming, cultivating a variety of root and grain crops such as yam, cassava, rice, and maize, often using manual labour and crude farming tools like hoes and cutlasses (Anugwa & Nwobodo, 2020; Omeje et al., 2020).

Research Design

This study adopted a survey research design. The survey design allows for efficient collection of quantitative data, ensuring the reliability and generalizability of the findings.

Population of the Study

The population for this study consisted of all persons from Aninri (133,723), Isi-Uzo (148,415), and Uzo-Uwani(124,480) Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Enugu State as at 2006 Census. The LGAs were purposefully selected to ensure representation from the three agricultural zones of Enugu State – Awgu, Enugu, and Nsukka Agricultural Zones. The total population size is 406,618 persons (NPC, 2006).

Sample Size

The sample size for this study was determined using Sloven's formula (1960), a standard technique for calculating sample sizes when the population is known, and a margin of error is specified. The formula is expressed as: $n = \frac{N}{(1+Ne^2)}$. Where n =

Sample size, N = Population size, 1 = Theoretical Constant, e = Margin of error (0.05 assumed).

$$n = 406,618 \div (1 + 406,618 \times 0.05^2) = 399 \quad (1)$$

Sampling Technique

This study employed a multi-stage sampling technique to select the respondents. Firstly, three Local Government Areas – Aninri, Isi-Uzo, and Uzo-Uwani – were purposively selected from the three distinct Agricultural Zones of the state which also corresponded with the three senatorial zones. Secondly, major farming communities in the LGAs. In Aninri - Oduma and Mpu communities. In Isi-Uzo - Eha-Amufu and Mbu communities while in Uzo-Uwani -Adani and Ogurugu communities were selected. From these communities' households' heads were randomly chosen to participate in the study.

4. Data Analysis

Data for the study are analysed using descriptive statistics, mean, percentages, frequency counts, and tables.

5. Results and Discussion

5.1 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents.

Table 1: Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

1(a) Sex Distribution of Respondents			1(f) Educational Attainment		
Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Education	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	181	46.29	No formal education	63	16.12
Female	210	59.85	Stopped Schooling	71	18.15
Total	391	100	Completed Primary School	91	23.27
1(b) Age Distribution of Respondents			1(g) Secondary Occupation of the Respondents		
Age category	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Secondary Occupation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
18-25	40	10.24	Trading	129	33.00
26-33	51	13.04	Teaching	51	13.04
34-41	57	14.57	Student	70	17.90
42-49	73	18.67	Artisan	98	25.06
50-57	81	20.72	Civil Servant	43	11.00
58 years +	89	22.76	Total	391	100
Total	391	100	1(h) Distribution of Respondents by major crops grown		
1(c) Marital Status of Respondents			Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Yam	95	24.30
Single	90	23.02	Cassava	125	31.96
Married	230	58.82	Rice	80	20.46
Divorced/Others	71	18.16	Maize	76	19.44
Total	391	100	Others (varied specifications)	15	3.84
1(d) Distribution of Respondents by Household Status			Total	391	100
Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)	1(e) Primary Occupation of the Respondents		
Head of Household (HH)	219	56.01	Primary Occupation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Representative of Head Household (RHH)	172	43.09	Crop farming	281	71.86
Total	391	100	Others (Varied)	110	28.14
			Total	391	100

Source: Authors' fieldwork (2024)

Findings from Table 1 showed that 59.85% of the sampled respondents are females. This may be indicative of the out migration of men to the urban areas. The table also shows that, most of the respondents were advanced in age. This may in part explain the use of child labour crop farming activities. This aligns with (Ume et al.,

2018). Most of the respondents were married (58.82%). Secondary education (28.14%) ranked the highest educational attainment of the respondents, implying the role of literacy in child labour use (Agbo, 2017; Enebe et al., 2020; FAO, 2018; ILO and NBS, 2024; and Ume et al., 2018). 71.86% of the respondents have crop farming as their primary occupation, and a higher number of them (33%) have trading as their secondary occupation, indicating the predominance of crop farming among rural dwellers in Enugu State, as Omeje et al. (2020) also observed.

Table 2: Responses on Prevalence of child labour use in rural households' crop farming activities

2(a) Crop farming activities performed by children			2(c) Preference for children labour than adult labourer in farming activities		
Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Farmland clearing	20	5.11	Yes	237	60.62
Farmland tillage	22	5.62	No	154	38.38
Crop preparation/ planting	30	7.70	Total	391	100
Fertilizer application	29	7.41	2(d) Most used gender of children in household farming activities		
Weeding	33	8.43	Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Herbicide application	23	5.90	Boys	185	47.31
Harvesting, gathering & conveyance	31	7.92	Girls	206	52.69
All of the above	203	51.91	Total	391	100
Total	391	100	2(e) Do children combine farming activities with schooling		
2(b) Children are gift from God; hence they are used to perform farming activities			Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Sometimes	60	15.35
Disagree	80	20.46	Hardly	45	15.35
Strongly Disagree	35	8.95	Always	198	50.64
Uncertain	40	10.23	Never	48	12.27
Agree	73	18.68	No idea	40	10.23
Strongly Agree	163	41.68	Total	391	100
Total	391	100			

Source: Authors' fieldwork (2024)

Findings from Table 2 shows that 51.91% of the sampled respondents affirmed the use of children to perform all the root and grain crop farming activities of rural

households. A majority of the respondents (41.68%) agreed that children can be used to perform all the root and grain crop farming activities of rural households, regardless of the nature of such activities. 48.86% of respondents indicated that children regularly participate in rural households' crop farming activities; over half of them (60.62%) constitute the major workforce, combining rural households' crop farming activities with schooling at 50.64%. More female children (52.69%) than males were involved in crop farming activities, contrary to the findings of ILO and UNICEF (2021) and, ILO and NBS (2024). Root crops, cassava (31.96 %) and Yam (24.30%) constituted the major or most grown crops by households in the rural communities of Enugu State.

These responses generally indicate an increase in the prevalence of child labour in Enugu State, especially in rural households' crop farming activities, contrary to the finding of ILO and NBS (2024), which puts the prevalence rate of child labour in the State at 34.0%. Key informants interviewed further corroborated these outcomes by affirming the extensive use of children in the rural households' crop farming activities, without recourse to its attendant effects on the education, health and socio-emotional well-being of children.

Findings from Table 3 shows the precursors child labour use in the crop farming activities of households in rural communities of Enugu State. Socially, rural-urban migration of adult labourers (76.21%), household and farm sizes (82.35%), demography (age, gender and ill-health) of household heads (65.58%), and ignorance of existing laws and policies against child labour by heads of households (63.42%), were identified by the sampled respondents as factors contributing to child labour use in households' crop farming activities of rural communities in Enugu State. These align with the findings of Agbo (2017), FAO (2018), UNICEF Nigeria (2019), and Ume et al. (2018) in their respective studies. However, 78.77% of the respondents disagreed that the transmission of cultural or traditional norms and values is a factor responsible for child labour use in rural households' crop farming activities in Enugu State, contrary to the position of UNICEF Nigeria (2019).

The Economic needs of households were also found to relate to child labour. Poverty accounted for (70.58%), children's quest to earn wages and support households' income (66.75%), and the high cost of hiring adult labourers (65.73%), were found to be the factors responsible for child labour at the root and grain crops farming activities of households in rural communities of Enugu State. The reported high rate of multidimensional poverty in Nigeria, particularly among the rural populace (NBS, 2022), and other findings by Agbo (2017), FAO (2018), ILO and NBS (2024), Ume et al. (2018), Omeje et al. (2020), UNICEF (2018), Oluyemi et al. (2018), and UNICEF Nigeria (2019) affirmed these outcomes.

Table 3: Causes of child labour in the root and grain crop farming activities of rural households

SOCIAL CAUSES			3(g) Children’s quest to earn wages and contribute to household income		
3(a) Rural-urban migration of adult labourers			Need to supplement HH income	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Movement of adults to towns	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Yes	261	66.75
yes	298	76.21	No	130	33.25
No	93	23.79	Total	391	100
Total	391	100	3(h) High cost of hiring adult labourers		
3(b) Household and farm sizes			Cost of labour	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Yes	257	65.73
Yes	322	82.35	No	134	34.27
No	69	17.65	Total	391	100
Total	391	100	POLITICAL CAUSES		
3(c) Age, ill-health and gender of household head			3(i) Lack of political will to provide accessible child-level schools and educational facilities		
Age, HHH Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	258	65.98	Yes	304	77.75
No	133	42.02	No	87	22.25
Total	391	100	Total	391	100
3(d) Ignorance of laws and policies against child labour			3(j) Government’s inability to empower farmers with mechanized farming equipment		
Ignorance of Laws	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	248	63.42	Boys	185	47.31
No	153	39.13	Girls	206	52.69
Total	391	100	Total	391	100
3(e) Transmission of society’s cultural or traditional norms and values			3(k) Non enforcement of laws and policies against child labour		
Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Non-Enforcement of laws	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	83	21.23	Yes	303	77.5
No	308	78.77	No	88	22.5
Total	391	100	Total	391	100
ECONOMIC CAUSES			3(f) Poverty		
Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Yes	276	70.58
Yes	276	70.58	No	115	29.42
No	115	29.42	Total	391	100
Total	391	100			

Source: Authors’ fieldwork (2024)

Lack of political will to provide educational facilities (77.75%), and government's inability to empower rural farmers with mechanized farming equipment (65.98%), and lack of awareness creation and enforcement of laws and policies against child labour (77.50%) were identified by the sampled respondents as political factors predisposing root and grain crops farming households in rural communities of Enugu State to child labour use. These outcomes align with the findings of Agbo (2017), FAO (2018), ILO and NBS (2024), Ume et al. (2018), Omeje et al. (2020), UNICEF (2018), Oluyemi et al. (2018), and UNICEF Nigeria (2019).

6. Conclusion and Recommendation

6.1 Conclusion

This study found that there are laws against child labour in Enugu State. However, many households are not aware of the existence of these laws and policies. Aside from, ignorance of the existing laws against child labour among rural households, its non-implementation encourages its wide practice in spite of the provisions of the Child rights by the Federal government which had been domesticated by Enugu State Government. The Social acceptance of the practice by households in rural farming communities in Enugu State is worrisome given the interest of government in the mass education of its children and the declaration of free and compulsory education at the basic education level in the State. The personal choices of parents in denying the children the needed education has wider implication for the children and the society. Considering the complex nature of the predisposing factors, the immediate and after-effects of child labour on children and general human capital development, it is important to emphasize that the menace of child labour requires urgent holistic actions to eliminate it in line with the Sustainable Development Goal 8, Target 7.

6.2 Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study it is therefore recommended that more awareness on existing laws against child labour be created while these laws are rigorously implemented by the government. Urgent holistic redress of the development imbalance between the rural and urban areas in Nigeria is also recommended to reduce out migration from rural areas. This pragmatic solution if implemented would limit child labour and advance human capital as well as reduce inter-generational poverty.

REFERENCES

Agbo, M. C. (2017). The Health and Educational Consequences of Child Labour in Nigeria. *Health Science Journal*, 11(1), 486.

- Anugwa, I. Q., & Nwobodo, O. B. (2020). "Assessment of Crop Farmer's Use of Organic Farming Practices in Enugu State, Nigeria. *Journal of Applied Sciences*, 20(2), 83-90.
- Enebe, N. O., Enebe, J. T., Agunwa, C. C., Ossai, E. N., Ezeoke, U. E., Idoko, A. C., & Mbachu, C. O. (2020). Prevalence and Predictors of Child Labour Among Junior Public Secondary School Students in Enugu, Nigeria: a Cross-sectional Study. *Research Square*.
<https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.48081/v1>
- ENSUBEB. (2014). *Enugu State, Nigeria Out-of-School Children Survey Report, October 2014*. Enugu, Nigeria: Enugu State Universal Basic Education Board (ENSUBEB).
- FAO. (2018). Child Labour in Agriculture is on the Rise, Driven by Conflict and Disasters: FAO Warns that This Trend Undermines Efforts to End Hunger and Poverty. *Food and Agriculture of the United Nations News Article, 12 June 2018, Rome*. Accessed via: www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1140078/icode/
- Huffman, W. E. (2010). Household Production Theory and Models. *Working Paper No. 10019, June 2010, Iowa State University, Department of Economics, Ames, Iowa, 50011-1070*.
- Knoema Atlas. (n.d.). Nigeria: Enugu Labour. Accessed on 20/03/2022 via <https://knoema.com/atlas/Nigeria/Enugu>.
- ILO & NBS. (2024). *Nigeria Forced Labour Survey 2022*. Geneva: International Labour Office, Nigeria National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), 2024.
- ILO & UNICEF. (2021). Child Labour: Global Estimates 2020, Trends and the Road Forward. *ILO and UNICEF, New York, 2021. License: CC BY 4.0*.
- ILO. (n.d.). What is Child Labour. Accessed on 03/11/2023 via: <https://www.ilo.org/ipecc/facts/lang--en/index.htm#:~:text=Whether%20or%20not%20particular%20forms,as%20among%20sectors%20within%20countries>
- NBS. (2022). *Nigeria Multidimensional Poverty Index Survey (2022)*. Abuja, Nigeria: National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).
- NBS. (2019). *Nigerian Gross Domestic Product (Q3 2019)*. Abuja, Nigeria: National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).
- NBS and NPC. (2016). *National Population Estimates Based on Population Census Conducted in 2016 by the National Population Commission*. Abuja, Nigeria: National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and National Population Commission (NPC).
- NBS. (2022). *Nigeria Multi-Dimensional Poverty Report*. Abuja: National Bureau of Statistics

- NPC. (2010). *Federal Republic of Nigeria 2006 Population and Housing Census Priority Table III; Population Distribution by Sex, State, LGA and Senatorial District*. Abuja, Nigeria: National Population Commission (NPC), April 2010.
- NPC and ICF. (2019). *Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey 2018*. Abuja, Nigeria: National Population Commission (NPC) and Rockville, Maryland, USA.
- Nwazuoke, A., Igwe, C. (2016). Worst Forms of Child Labour in Nigeria; AN Appraisal of International and Local Regimes. *Beijing Law Review*, 7, 69-82. <http://doi.org/10.436/blr.2016.71008>
- Oluyemi, J. A., Abubakar, M. Y., Abdulateef, R., Atolagbe, E., Adejoke, J. A., & Motolani, W. T. (2018). Child Labour Activities in a Changing World: Evidence from a Metropolis in Nigeria. *International Journal of Development and Management Review*, 13(1).
- Oluwakemi, O; (2025). The Role of International Laws in Shaping National Response to Child Labour: A Case Study of Nigeria. *Russian Law Journal*, 13(01).
- Omeje, E. E., Okpupkara, B. C., & Ihemezie, E. J. (2020). Effects of Child Poverty on Child Labour and Deprivation among Rural Household in Enugu State, Nigeria. *Review of Agricultural and Applied Economics*, ISSN 1336-9261, XXIII(1), 22-29. <https://doi.org/10.15414/raac.2020.23.01.22-2>
- Omorogiuwa, T. (2020). *What Children Said About Their Work and Wellbeing in Nigeria*. Accessed on 31/5/2021 via: <https://theconversation.com/what-children-said-about-their-work-and-wellbeing-in-nigeria-150187>
- Oyanira, T. (2020). "Current State of Nigeria Agriculture and Agribusiness Sector". *AfCFTA Workshop, September 2020*
- Ume, S. I., Ezeano, C. I. & Nnadozie, A. K. O. (2018). "Determinants of Child Labour in Crop Production (A Case Study of Anambra State of Nigeria)"; *Sustainability, Agric, Food and Environmental Research*, (0719-3726), 6(1), 45-57. <http://dx.doi.org/10.7770/safer-V6N1-art1354>.
- UNICEF (2019). "Child Labour". Accessed on 8/8/2020 via: <https://data.unicef.org/topic/child-protection/child-labour/>