The Unemployed and Armed Robbery in Port Harcourt City, (2000-2010)

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ABSTRACT
This research focuses on the rising unemployment rate and armed robbery in the Port Harcourt City, especially between 2000-2010. 300 registered unemployed persons and 100 convicted armed robbers were randomly selected from a sampling frame of 3771 persons for a questionnaire survey. Primary and secondary data were used for this study. The primary data was collected from job applicants with the Federal Ministry of Employment, Labour and Productivity and convicted armed robbers at the Port Harcourt Maximum Security Prison, while the secondary data were obtained from the Ministry of Labour and Productivity and State Criminal and Investigation Department (SCID). Study is situated in Sutherland theory of Differential Association. Five hypotheses are tested using the Chi-Square test of independence that were applied at 0.05 level of significance and 1 degree of freedom. The result of the Chi-Square (X^2) test was subjected to the estimate of relative risks between unpaired observations using the Odds Ratio. Findings showed that there is correlation between unemployment, family background, level of education, religious integration, peer group pressure and armed robbery. We recommended creation of more jobs both at the public and private sectors of the economy. We also recommended that the government should grant tax breaks to private companies as a way of encouraging them to employ more youths.

Keywords: Unemployment; armed robbery; Unemployed; Port Harcourt City

INTRODUCTION
1.1 Background to the Study
One of the greatest challenges facing Nigeria society today is the problem of unemployment and rising crime wave, especially armed robbery. Unemployment and armed robbery are also serious problems to many countries (both developed and developing economies), however, the problems seems to be most acute in Nigeria due to the fact that the country's economy has been experiencing serious crisis and is in recession. Unemployment rate in Nigeria has continued to be on the increase despite the abundant human and natural resources available in the country. The high rate of unemployment in Nigeria is due to policy inconsistencies and several years of military dictatorship.

In pre-colonial Nigeria and in Port Harcourt city in particular unemployment and armed robbery existed but were not such a serious problem as they are today. Unemployment never posed any major challenges to the communities because the agricultural and fishing sectors were able to absorb majority of the labour force. Apart from robberies, other forms of criminality such as stealing, adultery, murder, disrespect or assault of traditional rulers also existed in pre-colonial Nigeria, but these crimes did not constitute threats to the peaceful co-existence of communities. According to Karibi-White (1993) internal robberies existed in Nigeria until the advent of colonialism in 1861. Karibi-White (1993) noted that people were motivated to rob out of desperation and hunger because the robbery involved stealing foodstuffs, livestocks and other goods. Such robberies attracted only mere ridicule or flogging from community members in the form of punishment for the offence.

During colonialism, unemployment and armed robbery became serious problems because there were no enough jobs to absorb the large number of people migrating from the rural to the urban centres such as Port Harcourt city in search of paid employment. In fact, industrialization and commercialization, especially the laying of railway tracks in the 1920s brought wage employment to Nigeria and changed subsistence way of paying for labour. The introduction of wage labour by the British government in Port Harcourt in the twentieth century brought with it various forms of crimes including snatching at gun point of postal materials as people who could not find jobs resort to armed robbery and other criminal offences in order to survive in the city. After the annexation and enthronement of British government in Port Harcourt city in 1912 armed robbers were subjected to punishment by British law rather than traditional punishment system. This also led to the establishment of police constables to fight the menace of armed robbery and other offences such as assault, and homicide (Tamuno, 1970).

At the attainment of independence in 1960, unemployment rates and armed robbery incidence were quite low, because there were employment opportunities available to absorb the large influx of people from the rural areas. Employment in the private sectors, especially in the scientific sectors provided jobs for the teeming population. However, armed robbery incidence started to rise following the aftermath of the civil war. In fact the outcome of the civil war (1967-1970) was that many war veterans became jobless and some that were unable to find employment used their firearms to commit armed robbery. Following the oil boom of 1970's, there was rapid migration, especially the youths to the urban areas in search of wage employment. Crime, especially armed robbery incidence increased in the second half of 1970's, as the Nigerian economy started experiencing difficulties (Chamblis, 2005).

In the 1980s unemployment rate in Nigeria began to increase due to the depression in the economy during the late 1970s. This period also saw increase in reported cases of armed robbery and other violent crimes. The economic downturn led to the implementation of stabilization measures that included restrictions on exports, which caused import dependency of most Nigerian manufacturing enterprises that resulted in operations of many companies below their install capacity. This development led to the closure of many industries while the surviving few were forced to retrench a large proportion of their workforce. Thus, the Nigerian government, during the period, also placed embargo on employment. This, among other crisis, resulted in the introduction of the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) in 1986 and other economic

reforms.

Following the decline in global economy unemployment rate and armed robbery incidence started to increase. For instance, according to the International Monetary Fund (2015), in 2000 Nigerian unemployment rate was 13.1%, it rose to 13.6% in 2001 and fell to 12.6% in 2002 due to increase employment in the informal sector of the economy. However, in 2003 unemployment rate jumped to 14.8% but fell to 13.4% in 2004 and 11.9% in 2005. The decline was attributed to various efforts by government aimed at addressing the problem of unemployment through poverty alleviation programme. The unemployment rate increased sharply from 12.3% in 2006 to 12.7% in 2007. In 2008 unemployment rate increased to 14.9% and 19.7% in 2009 following the global economic meltdown and continued to rise to 21.1% in 2010. Similarly, during the same period, in 2000, armed robbery offences witnessed 11.4 percent increase from 87940 in 1999 and 188220 in 2001. The year 2002 to 2005 also witnessed an increase in armed robbery offences. It decreased to 180150 in 2002 as against 181220 in 2001, then increased to 182920 in 2003,183984 in 2004 and 185048 in 2005 respectively (National Bureau of Statistics, NBS 2014).

1.2 Objectives of the Study
- The purpose of this research is to determine whether family background, peer group pressure, religious integration, and level of education can cause the unemployed person to commit armed robbery.

The specific objectives of the study are to:
- Examine the relationship between unemployment and armed robbery in Port Harcourt city.
- Determine the relationship between family background and armed robbery in Port Harcourt City.
- Verify whether peer group pressure influences the unemployed persons to commit armed robbery in Port Harcourt City.
- Ascertain the relationship between religious integration and the act of armed robbery in Port Harcourt City.
- To examine whether level of education causes the unemployed persons to commit armed robbery in Port Harcourt City.

1.3   Hypotheses of the Study
The following hypothetical assumptions are made to guide the analysis of empirical data.
- There tends to be no increase in armed robbery when unemployment increases in Port Harcourt City.
- There is no likely relationship between family background and armed robbery in Port Harcourt City.
- There tends to be no significant relationship between peer group pressure and armed robbery in Port Harcourt City.
- The higher the level of religious integration the lower the participation in armed robbery in Port Harcourt city.
- There is no significant relationship between level of education and armed robbery.

1.3   Scope and Limitations of the Study

The study focused on the relationship between unemployment and armed robbery in Port Harcourt city. More specifically, the study investigates the unemployed resident in Port Harcourt City is driven into armed. The research examines cases of armed robbery that occurred between 2000 and 2010, and focuses on Port Harcourt city because it is the commercial centre of Rivers State and the hub of oil and gas business in Nigeria. Due to its central location in the Nigerian economy, it attracts people from different parts of Nigeria including indigenes who migrate from the rural areas to the urban centre in search of jobs and better opportunities. However, when many of these people arrive in Port Harcourt City, they find it difficult to secure gainful employment with the oil and gas companies, and other private corporate institutions. Consequently, many resort to criminal activities such as kidnapping, oil bunkering and illegal refining, and armed robbery in order to survive. This study was limited because of our difficulties in gaining easy access to interview prison inmates in a timely manner, because of the bureaucracy that researchers have to obtain permission from prison highest command before interviewing inmates. This affected our ability to conclude this study in a timely manner.

2.0 Theoretical Review

The theory adopted for this study is Edwin Sutherland theory of 'Differential Association'. Sutherland (1947) argues that people learn criminal behaviour through interaction with others individuals. In the process of such interaction individuals learn the techniques and patterns of criminal behavior. He believes that people will choose the criminal pattern when the definition against law-breaking exceeds law-abiding behaviour.Many employed persons in the City of Port Harcourt associate themselves with criminal gangs and during the process of such association learn the techniques of committing crime, especially where such groups are included to commit crimes. Those who are poor and lack family support and with limited level of education are predisposed to joining groups with criminal tendencies who in the process of such association and interaction learn the techniques of committing crimes such as armed robbery, kidnaping and oil theft.

2.1 Previous Studies

Empirical studies have called into question the strength, the significance and the hypothetical relationship between unemployment and crime. The theoretical basis of the debate relies on two countervailing effects of unemployment on crime, that is, a positive motivational effect and a negative opportunity effect. However, the strength and significance of the unemployment and crime relationship in empirical studies have also been shown to be conditional on indicational factors of measurement involving aggregates. Thus, the direction of the relationship between unemployment and crime is still disputed among scholars.

Reilly and Witt, for instance, (1992:214) believe the existence of a causal relation between unemployment and armed robbery has been a subject of some investigation in the past. In fact, citations in Field (1990: 10) and Timbrell (1990: 75) as confirmed in (Reilly and Witt, 1992) reveal that such investigation dates as far back as the first century. For instance, Falk and Zweimuller (2005:3) found a significant positive relation between state level unemployment and the incidence of right-wing extremist armed robbery in Germany. Fougere and Kramarz (2009: 33) also gained support for the positive relation between unemployment and armed robbery using regional level data for 95 departments of metropolitan France. Similarly, Baharom and

Habibullah (2009:3), using bounds test, found that, in the long run, strong economic performances (real income per capita), indeed, have a positive impact on armed robbery. On the other hand, weak economic conditions have a negative impact on armed robbery. Saridakis and Spengler (2009: 1) empirically examined the relationship between armed robbery, deterrence and unemployment in Greece, using a regional dataset, over the period 1991-1998. They found that armed robbery was significantly deterred by higher clear-up rates. They also found that unemployment increased armed robbery. However, for violent crimes such as homicide and aggravated assault, the effect of the clear-up rate and unemployment are found to be insignificant. The findings from Saridakis and Spengler's study shows that increased level of clear-up may prevent armed robbery and other criminal offences, but the study fails to indicate how this method will deter people from committing armed robbery. Additionally, Baharon and Habibullah (2009) examined the relationship between income, unemployment and armed robbery for the period between 1993 and 2001 and found that armed robbery exhibits positive and significant relationship with income and unemployment for all categories of crimes except for domestic burglary, where it found a significant negative relationship. They also discovered that armed robbery had a positive significant relationship with unemployment. Baharon and Habibullah's findings have significance for our present study on unemployment and armed robbery because it shows that unemployment has a positive impact on armed robbery. Also Edmark (2003: 18) examined the effect of unemployment on armed robbery for the period between 1988 and 1999 and found that unemployment had a positive effect armed robbery, however, the connection between unemployment and aggregate armed robbery rate was found to be somewhat ambiguous. Edmark, (2003:10) argued that an estimated positive relationship between unemployment and armed robbery need not necessarily imply that unemployment causes armed robbery, but may merely reflect that both variables are affected by a third factor that had been omitted from the analysis.

Danzigar (1976: 291-96) in a study of the relationship between unemployment and armed robbery of 202 metropolitan cities in America found that the greater the rate of unemployment, the higher the rate of armed robbery. This finding supports the findings of our study that there is a significant relationship between unemployment and armed robbery in Port Harcourt city. However, Spector's (1975: 115) findings contradicted that Danzigar (1976) on the relationship between unemployment and armed robbery. Spector sampled 103 standard metropolitan areas in the U.S. (SMSAS) in 1970 for violent offenses and found that no significant relationship or correlation exists between unemployment and armed robbery in American cities. However, he found that unemployment was a minor contributor to the high rate of armed robbery in American cities. Also, Swimmer (1974: 20) studied 100,000 inhabitants in Britain, and concluded that in comparison with other variables, the unemployment rate has the least explanatory power for armed robbery in England (Box, 1985). Although, the studies by Spector (1975) and Swimmer (1974) found unemployment to be the least explanatory variable for armed robbery, but our study found that unemployment affects armed robbery positively.

Stack (1978: 93) supports the argument that there is a relationship between unemployment and crime. He found from an empirical study on suicide, that a one percent increase in the rate of unemployment is associated with a 0.93 percent increase in the rate of suicide. Carmichael and Ward (2001:112) in a study of unemployment on robbery rates found a significant and positive relationship between adult and youth unemployment and armed robbery rates. Brenner (1977:2-

5) also found that each percentage increase in unemployment is associated with 120 armed robbery rates. Stack, (1978) and Carmichael and Ward (2001) studies are similar to our present study because they both examined the relationship between unemployment and armed robbery. However, Stack's study only looks at the effect of unemployment on suicide rate, while Carmichael and Ward were more concerned with youth unemployment. They failed to examine the impact of unemployment on armed robbery.

Kilishi, Mobolaji, Usman, Yakubu and Yaru (2012) carried out a study on the impact of unemployment on various types of crime in Nigeria including armed robbery. Kilishi et al's (2012) study relied on crime data from the 36 states of the country including the Federal Capital Territory (FTC) spanning from 1996 to 2005. They found that unemployment had a significant impact on armed robbery.

A similarly study was conducted by IwarimieJaja (2003) who set out to determine whether there was a relationship between unemployment and armed robbery during periods of economic boom (1970-1979) and economic crisis (1980-1990). The study found a significant relationship between unemployment and armed robbery during period of economic boom and economic crisis. This study is similar to the present study because it was carried out in Port Harcourt, however Iwarimie-Jaja's research only examined unemployment as it relates to armed robbery during period of economic boom and economic crisis without actually determining factors such as commercial motorcycle and mobile communication that makes an unemployed person to commit armed robbery.

3.0 Methodology
The method of data collection adopted in this research was through administration of questionnaire to 400 respondents who are convicted armed robbers at Port Harcourt penitentiary, and unemployed job applicants who were registered with the Federal Ministry of Employment, Labour and Productivity, Port Harcourt. Another method of data collection was through oral interview of respondents. The oral interview was conducted in order to elicit detail information from participants, especially prison inmates who were not literate enough to understand the types of questions they were being asked.

The questions in the questionnaire were divided into two separate sections so as to derive different sets of information from participants. The first section contains questions on socio-economic characteristics of respondents, while the second section contains questions relating to respondents experience with unemployment and questions that provides answers to assumptions raised in the study.The population of the study consists of convicted armed robbers at the Port Harcourt prisons, and job applicants who were registered with the Federal Ministry of Employment Labour and Productivity. The sample size for this research is 400 respondents who were selected for the purpose of this research. This consists of 300 registered unemployed resident and 100 convicted armed robbers. The sample size was derived from a total population of 3771. A simple random sampling technique was used to select respondents from the available sampling frames from the Port Harcourt Prisons and the Federal Ministry of Employment, Labour and Productivity. However, to arrive at the sample size, the Taro Yemen's formula was adopted. This formula is stated as follows:

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

Where   n   =   sample size sought

             N   =   population

             e   =   level of significance

$$n = \frac{3{,}771}{1 + 3{,}771\,(0.05)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{3{,}771}{1 + 3{,}771(0.0025)}$$

$$= 3.99.8 = 400$$

4.0 Result and Discussion

In this chapter, data obtained from the field work are presented, analyzed and interpreted.

4.1 Introduction

This chapter entails a clear presentation and analysis of the data obtained from sampled respondents The purpose of this analysis is to allow for the testing of the hypotheses earlier stated and formulated in chapter one to enable us validate the various assumptions made.

4.2. Presentation and Interpretation of Data

In this sub-section, the personal characteristics of respondents are presented in table 4.2.1.as collated from the fieldwork and interpreted below.

Table 4.2.1: Distribution of Respondents by Socio Economic-demographic Characteristics

Characteristics	Categories	Value	Frequencies	Percentage (%)
Gender	Male	1.0	325	81.3
	Female	2.0	75	18.8
	Total		**400**	**100.0**
Age	Below 30yrs	1.0	287	71.0
	30-39yrs	2.0	88	20.0
	40-47yrs	3.0	25	6.3
	50yrs plus	4.0	8	2.0
	Total		**400**	**100.0**
Marital Status	Single	1.0	320	80.0
	Married	2.0	80	20.0
	Total		**400**	**100.0**
Religion	Christian	1.0	320	80.0
	Muslim	2.0	40	10.0
	Others	3.0	40	10.0
	Total		**400**	**100.0**
Education	Primary	1.0	78	19.5
	Secondary	2.0	309	77.3
	Tertiary	3.0	13	3.3
	Total		**400**	**100.0**

According to the socio-economic characteristics of respondents, overwhelming majority of respondents (81.3%) are males, while 8.8% are females. Also, 71.0% of respondents fell below 30 years of age, while only 2.0% are 50 years plus. Participants who are married formed the majority of respondents (80%) compared to the single (20%). Further, the religious distribution of the respondents shows that Christians comprised 80% of respondents, while Muslims consist of 10%. Lastly, majority of the respondents (77.3) have secondary school education, only 3.3% are college or university graduates.

4.3   Data Analysis
This sub-subsection deals with the analysis of the each objective raised in chapter earlier.

Objective 1. To examine the relationship between unemployment and armed robbery in Port Harcourt City, table 4.3.1 is presented below:
Question: "Do people commit more armed robbery during period of high unemployment?"

Table 4.3.1:   Unemployment and Armed Robbery

Grading	Value	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cum percent
Undecided	.0	35	8.8	8.8	8.8
Strongly disagree	1.0	35	8.8	8.8	8.8
Disagree	2.0	50	12.5	12.5	30.0
Agree	3.0	120	30.0	30.0	60.0
Strongly agree	4.0	160	40.0	40.0	40.0
	Total	**400**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

Data in table 4.3.1 shows that 60% of respondents agree with the statement, while 40% of the respondents strongly agree that people tend to commit more armed robbery during period of high unemployment. Conversely, 8.8% of the respondents strongly disagree with the statement.

Objective 2: To examine the relationship between family background and robbery in Port Harcourt City, table4.3.2 is presented below:
Question "Are people from poor family background more likely to commit armed robbery?"

Table 4.3.2: Family Background and Armed robbery

Grading	Value	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cum Percent
Undecided	0.0	0			
Strongly disagree	1.0	0			
Disagree	2.0	40	10.0	10.0	10.0
Agree	3.0	240	60.0	60.0	70.0
Strongly agree	4.0	120	30.0	30.0	100.0
	Total	**400**	**100.0**	**100.0**	

60% of the respondents indicated they agree with the statement, while 30.0% of the respondents strongly agree that poor family background causes youth to commit armed robbery. On the other hand, 10% of those interviewed disagree with the statement. The data shows that overwhelming majority (90%) of respondents agree that there is a relationship between family background and armed robbery.

Objective 3: To verify whether peer group pressure influences unemployed persons to commit armed robbery in Port Harcourt City, table 4.3.3 is presented below:
Question: "Do peer group exert influence on young people to commit armed robbery?"

Table 4.3.3: Peer Group Pressure and Armed robbery

Grading	Value	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cum Percent
Undecided	.0				
Strongly disagree	1.0	40	10.0	10.0	10.0
Disagree	2.0	40	10.0	10.0	20.0
Agree	3.0	160	40.0	40.0	60.0
Strongly agree	4.0	160	40.0	40.0	100.0
	Total	**400**	**100.0**	**100.0**	

Table 4.3.3 indicates that 10% strongly disagree with the statement while another 10% also disagreed with the statement. Conversely, 40% of the respondents agree with the statement, and another 40% strongly agree with the statement. This means that majority of respondents (80%) claim that peer group exert influence on youths to commit armed robbery.

Objective 4: To examine the relationship between religious integration and the act of armed robbery in Port Harcourt City, table 4.3.4 is stated below:

Question: "People with high religious integration have low inclination to commit armed robbery?"
Table 4.3.4: Religious Integration and Armed robbery

Grading	Value	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cum Percent
Undecided	.0	200	50.0	62.5	62.5
Strongly disagree	1.0	80	20.0	25.0	87.5
Disagree	2.0	40	10.0	12.5	100.0
Agree	3.0	80	20.0	missing	
Strongly agree					
	Total	**400**	**100.0**	**100.0**	

Data in table 4.3.4 shows that 50% of the respondents were undecided in response to the question, while 20% strongly disagree with the statement, and 2% disagree. On the other hand, 20% of the respondents stated that they agree with the statement. This means that religious

integration play a significant role in propelling people in to committing armed robbery.

Objective 5: To examine whether level of education causes unemployed persons to commit armed robbery in Port Harcourt City, table 4.3.5 is stated below:
Question "Are people with low level of education more likely to be involved in armed robbery?"

Table 4.3.5: Level of Education and Armed robbery

Grading	Value	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cum Percent
Undecided	0				
Strongly disagree	1.0				
Disagree	2.0				
Agree	3.0	240	60.0	60.0	60.0
Strongly agree	4.0	160	40.0	40.0	100.0
	Total	**400**	**100.0**	**100.0**	

Our analysis shows that 60% of the respondents agree with the statement, while 40.0% of respondents strongly agree with it. This implies that all (100%) of the respondents believe that people with low level of education are more likely to be involved in armed robbery than those with higher education.

4.4   Empirical Results
(A)   Test of Hypothesis One
H_0: There tends to be no increase in armed robbery when unemployment increases in Port Harcourt City.
H_1: There tends to be increase in armed robbery when unemployment increases in Port Harcourt City.

Table 4.4.1: Unemployment and Armed Robbery

Cases of Armed Robbery	**Cases**		**Control**	
Responses	O	E	O	E
Yes	87	77.25	222	231.76
No	13	22.75	78	68.25
Total	100	100	300	300

X^2 Cal. 7.21> X^2 tab = 3. 841

The result shows that our calculated value of 7.21 > the table value of 3.841, we therefore reject our null hypothesis which says that there tends to be no increase in armed robbery when unemployment increases and accept our alternative hypothesis that says that there tends to be increase in armed robbery when unemployment increases. This implies that an increase in unemployment is 2.35 times more likely to induce an increase in armed robbery than when there

is no increase in unemployment.

B)   **Test of Hypothesis Two**

H_0:   There is no relationship between family background and armed robbery in Port Harcourt City.

H_2: There is a relationship between family background armed robbery in Port Harcourt City.

Table 4.4.2 Family Background and Armed Robbery

Responses	Cases		Controls	
	O	E	O	E
Yes	88	80	232	240
No	12	20	68	60
Total	100	100	300	300

Cal. $X^2 = 5.34 > X^2$ tab. = 3. 841

Since the calculated value of 5.34 > the table value of 3.841 we therefore reject our null hypothesis we says that there is no relationship between absence of family support and armed robbery and accept our alternative hypothesis which says that there is a relationship between family background and armed robbery. This analysis implies that family background is 2.15 times more likely to induce armed robbery than where there is well-off family background.

C) **Test of Hypothesis Three**

H_0:   There tends to be no relationship between peer group pressure and armed robbery in Port Harcourt City.

H_3:   There tends to be a relationship between group peer pressure and armed robbery in Port Harcourt City.

Table 4.4.3: Peer Group Pressure and Armed Robbery

Reponses	Cases		Controls	
Criminal Group	O	E	O	E
Non-Criminal Group	75	(61.5)	171	184.5
Total	25	(38.5)	129	115.5
	100	(100)	300	300

X^2Cal. 10.26 > X^2 tab. = 3.841

The result shows that our calculated value of 10.26 > the table value of 3.841, we therefore reject our null hypothesis which says that there is no relationship between peer group pressure and armed robbery and accept our alternative hypothesis which says that there is a relationship between peer group pressure and armed robbery. Therefore, peer group pressure is 2. 26 times more likely to induce armed robbery than when there is no peer group pressure.

D) **Test of Hypothesis Four**

H_0:   The lower the level of religious integration, the higher the participation in armed robbery in Port Harcourt City

H_4:   The higher the level of religious integration, the lower the participation in armed robbery in Port Harcourt City.

Table 4.4.4: Religious Integration and Armed Robbery

Responses	Cases		Controls	
	O	E	O	E
Yes	92	(84.5)	246	(253.5)
No	8	(15.5)	54	(46.5)
Total	100	100	300	300

X^2 Cal. = 5. 73 > X^2 tab> = 3. 841

The inference drawn from this analysis is that since the calculated value of 5.73 is > the table value of 3. 841, we reject our null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis which says that the higher the level of religious integration the lower the participation in armed robbery. Among the unemployed low level of religious integration is 2.52 times more likely to induce armed robbery than where there is high level of religious integration.

E. Test of Hypothesis Five
H_0 There is no relationship between level of education and armed robbery in Port Harcourt City.
H_5 There is a relationship between level of education and armed robbery in Port Harcourt City.

Table 4.4. 5: Level of Education and Armed Robbery

Responses	Cases		Controls	
	O	E	O	E
Yes	89	(62.25)	172	(195.75)
No	11	(34.75)	128	(104.25)
Total	100	100	300	300

X^2 Cal = 33.16 > X^2 tab. = 3.841
Since the calculated value of X^2 33.16 > X^2 table 3.841, we therefore reject our null hypothesis which says that there is no relationship between level of education and armed robbery and accept our alternative hypothesis which says that there is a relationship between level of education and armed robbery. Among the unemployed, low level of education is 6.02 times more likely to induce armed robbery than higher level of education.

5.0 Summary and Conclusion
5.1   **Summary**
This research examines the unemployed and armed robbery in Port Harcourt City (2000-2010). For some time now the city of Port Harcourt has been experiencing very rapid growth in its population. People migrate from rural and other states of the country to Port Harcourt City in search of jobs and better opportunities. The consequence of this massive influx of people is an upsurge in unemployment and other related social problems such as homelessness, destitution, slum settlement, pimping, burglary, stealing, oil theft, pipeline vandalisation and armed robbery.

In this rapidly growing city of Port Harcourt people are exposed to a high degree of stress and frustration. This stress is due to the pressure on the people to accumulate wealth or to be seen as being materially successful, while de-emphasing public duty. This cultural emphasis on material success creates pressure and frustration in people. This feeling of frustration and hostility due to economic hardship compels most individuals, especially the youthful population to break away from societal norms and values. They simply retreat to a sub-culture of cultism and criminality thereby rejecting the legitimate means of becoming successful.

Although the incidence of armed robbery is not new to the city of Port Harcourt, however its occurrence has been on the increase in recent years and the rate at which it occurs is quite alarming. Unfortunately, no adequate measure has been taken to curb the menace. The assumption is that persons who are unemployed may not adhere to societal demands of using legitimate means of livelihood but will resort to illegitimate means to achieve the desired cultural goals (Merton, 1955).

The problem of the study was specified in the paucity of empirical data to accommodate a wider range of variables into the study of unemployment and armed robbery such as peer pressure, family background and religious integration for the unemployed.Researched questions were posed and compressed into testable assumptions to measure the association between armed robberies as a dependent variable and a set of independent variables including unemployment per se, peer pressure, religious integration, family background among the unemployed.An exhaustive selection of related literature threw further light on the operational meanings of key concepts such as peer pressure, unemployment, family background, religious integration and armed robbery.

The methodology explained the underlying design of the research hinged on the analytical case-control comparison of the one group of subjects manifesting a known condition or risk is matched with a control group without the specified conditions. Furthermore, the details of procedures used in selecting the population of study, sample size and sampling techniques, as well as the data collection instruments were given in the third chapter of the work. .Empirical results of the study were presented using frequency tables, and Chi-Square test of association. Findings from the data analysis revealed that significant relationship exist between unemployment, peer pressure, family background, and level of religious integration among the unemployed and armed robbery.

5.2   Conclusion
During pre-colonial time unemployment and armed robbery existed but did not pose such serious problem as it is today, because the agricultural and fishing sectors were able to absorb majority of the labour force. During colonialism unemployment and armed robbery started to become serious problems because there were no enough job opportunity to absorb the large number of people migrating from rural areas to the city in search of employment and better living condition. The unemployment situation in Nigeria is made worse because of several years of mismanagement of the national economy by successive military administration.

Although, the increase in unemployment tends to increase rate of armed robbery, however those with high level of religious integration, strong family background, and high level of education are less likely to be involved in armed robbery and other criminal activities. This is because the family background, level of education, and level of religious integration can become buffers against peer pressures and influence. Additionally, unemployed persons from poor family background have relatively higher propensity to engage in armed robbery than other unemployed persons from a well off background. This is because such family might be able to provide the material needs of such unemployed persons. This is similar to the findings in the study by Pezzin (2004) that estimated the effect of family background on youths' decision to participate in crime

using youth survey data, and found a higher level of association between family background and crime. Also, unemployed persons with high level of religious integration are less likely to engage in armed robbery than those with low level of religious integration. This is because religious institutions builds the character of individuals and provides a buffer against criminal influences. However, Falk, (1961) study contradictsour present finding. In a sample of 300 respondents in the US, he found no association between religious integration and crime because of differential personality integration patterns. Lastly, unemployed persons with high level of education have lower propensity to participate in armed robbery. This is similar to the findings by Lochner and Moretti (2003) who estimated the effect of education on participation in criminality using data from the FBI uniform crime report. The study found a causal relationship between level of education and crime. Although, some well-educated persons also engage in armed robbery and other criminal behaviour, however there is lower inclination for educated persons to engage in armed robbery. This is because schooling increases the return to legitimate work thereby raising the opportunity cost of illicit behavior. Also, punishment is likely to be more costly for the more educated than those with lower education, and the stigma associated with criminal conviction is higher for the more educated than those with lower education (Lochner and Moretti, 2003).

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