A Literature Search of Psycho-Demographic Factors Accounting for Terrorism: Implications for Africa's Development in the 21st Century.

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Abstract: This paper was a literature search that attempted to review the psycho-demographic factors accounting for terrorism and the implications for Africa's development in the 21st century. Drawing knowledge from the instrumental theory of terrorism and the psychological theory of frustration-aggression theory, several empirical studies were reviewed and the findings showed that both psychological and socio-demographic factors account for terrorism acts in Africa. Some of the psychological factors identified from literature were anti-social personality traits, irrational beliefs about religion, sadism and masochism traits. Further review showed that displacement of aggression towards less threatening groups (minority) also psychologically accounts for terrorism in Africa. As for the socio-demographic information, it was reportedly observed that age, religion, educational qualification, employment status, family background, socio-economic status, and ethnicity largely accounted for terrorism among the African populace. Lastly, the implications of terrorism on Africa's development showed that terrorism has both positive and negative implications for Africa's development in the 21st century. These implications affects not only the infrastructural development of Africa, but also the physical and mental health of Africans.Hence, these reviews highlights the importance of psychologists in the implementation of counterterrorism programs. Consequently, the discussion of these review findings and the recommendations were presented in this paper.

Key Words: Psycho-Demographic Factors, Terrorism and Africa.

I. INTRODUCTION

The menace of terrorism is popularly on the increase especially in a continent like Africa (Global Terrorism Information, 2018). In very recent times, African countries such as Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, etc. have reported high prevalent attacks from Islamic groups, thus causing many of its citizens to be in a state of psychological distress.Consequently, the researcher carries out a literature search on the psycho-demographic factors explaining terrorism, and the implications of this for Africa's development in the 21st century. Terrorism can be defined as the illegal deployment of force and violenceagainst persons or property for the purpose of intimidating a government, the civilian population or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social intentions (U.S. Code of Federal Regulations).

Similarly, the United Nations (UN) in a treaty defined terrorism as any act that entails the following elements: (i) the perpetration of a criminal act (such as murder, kidnapping, hostage-taking, arson, etc.), or threatening such an act; (ii) the intent to spread fear among the population (which would generally entail the creation of public danger) or directly or directly or indirect coerce a national or international authority to take some action, or to refrain from taking it; and (iii) when the act involves a transnational element (Interlocutory Decision, 2011).Going by these definitions of terrorism, it appears that terrorism is centered on the exertion of intimidation and fear in the minds of a group of persons for certain intentions. This hallmark suggests that terrorism acts are illegal and against established laws. In this light it becomes imperative to consider an explanation of the variables that have been found to empirically account for acts of terrorism.

NATO provides a definition of terrorism in the AAP-06 NATO, (2014) as the unlawful use or threatened use of force or violence against individuals or property in an attempt to coerce or weakengovernments or societies to achieve political, religious or ideological objectives. These definitions were professionally provided by international professionals in the fields of counterterrorism studies.One major thing obvious in these definitions is that it isimperative to consider any act of terrorism as an illegal act, i.e. not backed up by any given law, alongside as having some ulterior motives for perpetuation.Terrorism is accounted

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for by several variables, for the purpose of the present paper, psychological and demographic variables will be considered as found in literature search.

Psycho-demographic is a combination of two words, **psychological** and **demographic**. Both psychological and demographic variables largely account for terrorism and this has great implication for development in Africa. Some of these psycho-demographic variables are known, while many of them are unknown (e.g. Muda, Rafiki&Harahap, 2018; Anderson & Fred 2017). Consequently through further investigative efforts, other of such psycho-demographic variables will be identified. With respect to his light, the present paper will attempt to enrich literature by reviewing the psycho-demographic variables that explains terrorism, and discussing the implications of this for development in Africa.

Types of Terrorism

The history of terrorism can be rooted in the French revolution and has been evolving since then. According to the United Nations (UN), five (5) major types of terrorism can exist, namely:

(i) **State-sponsored terrorism**. This refers to a form of terrorism where terrorists are motivated by astate or government to unleash terror on another state or government. For example, in Nigeria, political scientists have posited that book haram incidence is motivated by the opposition government to frustrate the incumbent government. If this is largely true, then it is a typical illustration of state-sponsored terrorism.

(ii) **Dissent terrorism**. This refers to a form of terrorism where terrorists rebel against their government. This form of terrorism is common among terrorist groups that unleash terror on civilians for the purpose of countering a certain government. This kind of terrorism is different from the former in that dissent terrorism is not motivated by any opposition government, but may be motivate by private individuals for self-purposes.

(iii) **Terrorists and the left and right**. This refers to a form of terrorism where the ideology behind their formation and operation is politically rooted. This implies that terrorists groups in this category operate for political reasons which are considered to be highly beneficial to them.

(iv) **Religious terrorism**. This refers to terrorist groups which are religiously motivated. Religious terrorism is a movement of terrorist groups which are set up for the purpose of achieving objectives which are religious in nature. Religious terrorist groups are usually bias to opposition religious groups and perceives opposition religious groups as threats to their existence.

(v) **Criminal terrorism**. The last form of terrorism refers to terrorists groups that assist in crime and criminal profits. Criminal terrorism implies terrorism for achieving criminal intention. For example when a terrorist group is set up for the purpose of stealing or other forms of theft purposes, such act is called criminal terrorism.

II. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Instrumental Approach to Terrorism

Crenshaw (1987) formulated the instrumental approach to terrorism. According to this theory, violence or terrorism is seen as intentional and deliberate. In addition, this theory perceives terrorism as a means to achieving political ends. Terrorism is seen as a tool for effecting changes in the government's political position, than the destruction of the masses. In essence, the hallmark of the instrumental approach to terrorism holds that acts of terrorism is an instrument for purposefully achieving certain aims and objectives. This theory widely adopted globally, especially during international meetings of the United Nations (UN) in explaining the development and implementation of terrorism.

With application to the present paper, the instrumental approach to terrorism is adopted for the purpose of explaining the development of terrorism in Africa. Tapping from the ideologies of the instrumental approach, it will be posited that terrorism in Africa is an intentional and deliberate approach for attaining political ends in Africa. Thus interventions to mitigate against acts of terrorism in Africa must consider the deliberate intentions of terrorists' group members in order to ensure the efficacy of counterterrorism measures put in place. In this light, the instrumental approach thus provides an additional information for comprehending terrorism with respect to Africa.

Frustration-Aggression Theory

The frustration-aggression theory was developed from the psychodynamic theory of Sigmund Freud. This theory has been widely adopted by psychologists for the purpose of explaining the development and operation of terrorism among groups and individuals. According to this theory, terrorism occurs because individuals are frustrated from certain failed goals, thus causing them to redirect their anger towards less threatening groups (minority). In this case, the perceived less threatening group thus becomes the end receiver of the frustration and anger of the perpetuator. The whole process of frustration and aggression is described as

displacement i.e. a process whereby individuals exert their feelings, emotions or behaviors towards a less threatening group.

With application to the present paper, the frustration-aggression thus provides a psychological perspective for explaining terrorism. Hence, it may be justified to say that terrorism in Africa is an act to exert on less threatening groups emotions that are resulting from frustration. Furthermore, this act of displacement thus makes the less threatening group (minority group) to receive the unjust effects of frustration and aggression from the majority group. In summary, the present paper adopts a second theory for explaining terrorism in Africa which is the frustration-aggression theory. Thus in attempt to understand terrorism, as suggested by this theory it may be appropriate to consider the frustration faced by terrorists groups in order to efficaciously combat terrorism. The frustration-aggression theory therefore provides a psychological approach that is of great utility in the context of this present paper.

III. RELATED STUDIES
Causes of Terrorism in Africa

Feldman (2018) in a bid to understand the root causes of terrorism in Africa, embarked on a study to examine the root causes of terrorism: why parts of Africa might never be at peace. After data collection and analysis, findings showed that the root causes of terrorism in Africa were corruption, poverty, disease, obstacles to democracy, huge disparities of income, environmental degradation, social injustice, barriers to the press and lack of effective family planning. Further findings also showed that the deployment of military assistance alone was insufficient in mitigating against terrorism, because the causes of terrorism was largely inclusive of non-military factors than military factors.Consequently to these findings, the researcher; Feldman (2018) recommended that the inclusion of non-military factors should be strengthened in the course of counterterrorism in Africa.

Similarly, Elu and Gregory (2016) carried out an examination with attempt to identify some major causes of terrorism in Africa, by investigating the causes and consequences of terrorism in Africa. Data were collected using a secondary data collection method, findings showed that the major causes of terrorism in Africa included perceived deprivation among Africans, pursuit of worldly-goals, and religious motives, with deprivation having the strongest effect on the causes of terrorism in Africa. In this light, the researchers thus suggested that further investigations will be required on the demographic features of Africans that propel Africans towards terrorism, as this study did not provide a clear light on that.

Odunsi, Eweama and Onifade (2017) carried out a study in African continent to investigate the causes of terrorism in Africa. After data collection and analysis, it was reportedly observed that the major causes of terrorism were dynamic. It was found in a comparative analysis that in previous times, religion was the major cause of poverty, however in present time the major cause of poverty included social problems such as poverty, illiteracy, poor governance, and unemployment. This thus suggests that the cause of terrorism evolves overtime in Africa, hence what causes terrorism in Africa today will obviously differ from what causes terrorism in Africa tomorrow. In this light, the researchers; Odunsi, Eweama and Onifade (2017) concluded that due to the dynamism in the causes of terrorism in Africa, constant research on the causes of terrorism in Africa will be required from further studies in order to enrich literature with the recent causes of terrorism in Africa.

Lastly, Chukwu and Ohabunwa (2018) in a quest to understand the causes of terrorism in Africa, carried out an article review. Outcome of the literature search reflected that, the major causes of terrorism included the masses perception of bias on governmental activities, educational barriers, perceived threat to cultural norms and valuesof Africans and increased diversity in spoken language. In this light, it was thus suggested that the causes of terrorism in Africa is largely due to social problems, hence further checkmates will be required on this.

Implications of Terrorism on Africa's Development in the 21st Century

Terrorism as an act is accompanied with a number of implications on the development of Africain post-modern times. Firstly, increased terrorism acts in Africa makes the continent an unsafe haven thus increasing the onset of certain medical and psychological conditions in the minds of inhabitants (Goodison, 2018). This implies that very frequent attack from terrorists could serve as a breed for developing disorders of the minds such as posttraumatic stress disorder, depression, and even medical conditions such as hypertension. Thus failure to curb terrorism may be very deteriorating to the health of African inhabitants, and as such an unhealthy population cannot contribute meaningfully to the development of Africa.

In Kenya, Manya (2013) carried out a study on the victims of Al-Shabab attacks in order to examine the implications of such attack on the wellbeing of the victim survivors. With a sample size of 84 participants data were collected and analyzed. The outcome of the analysis showed that among the implications of terrorism on Africa included loss of foreign and local investors, loss of tourists, increased anxiety among local inhabitants,

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and damage of reputation in international recognition. Consequently, the researcher concluded that the implications of terrorism are very inimical and as such should be countered.

Going from a different approach, Mohammed and Yahaya (2018) carried out a study to examine the implications of terrorism on Africa's development, using northern Nigeria as a case study. Data were collected using survey method, qualitative approach and secondary data collection method. The results from the analysis showed that terrorism has both positive and negative implications for Africa's' development. Positively, it was reportedly found that terrorism increases the awareness of the government towards the needs of the masses, in addition terrorism attacks may help contribute to the beef up of a country's security, thus increasing the professionalism of security professionals. As for the negative implications, it was reportedly found that increased terrorism contributes to loss of lives and properties thus causing a decline in the workforce of Africa. Hence causing a delayed development for Africa as a whole.In this light it was thus suggested that African governments should leverage on the benefits of terrorism with also the intention of curbing the menace in Africa.

Psycho-Demographic Factors and Terrorism in Africa

Scarcella (2016) carried out a study to investigate the psychosocial correlates of terrorism. Using a sample size of 212 convicted criminals, the findings showed that personality factors which included sadism, masochism and gullibility contributed significantly positively to the acts of terrorism. Further findings showed that demographic information which included age, religion, educational qualification and socio-economic status were significant joint and independent predictors of terrorism among the research participants. In this light, the researcher; Scarcella (2016) recommended for the consideration of personality factors and demographic information during combat and management of terrorism cases.

Razik and Otamen (2013) investigated the relationship between psycho-demographic variables and terrorism in Africa.With a sample size of 72 criminals, data were collected and analyzed. Results showed that positive attitude towards holy war (jihad) contributed to terrorism tendencies among research participant. Further findings showed that displacement towards a perceived less threatening groups also contributed to the acts of terrorism.as for the demographic factors, indications were that gender, marital status, employment status and religious and political ideologies significantly accounted for 70% of terrorism acts.With respect to this, it was thus suggested that more demographic variables accounted for terrorism than psychological variables, hence further investigations will be required to unravel more psychological correlates of terrorism in Africa.

Lastly, Ejike and Nwabueze (2018) in a quest to understand the antecedents of terrorism, carried out a study to investigate the determinants of terrorism among African populace. After data collection and analysis, the results showed that, certain psychological variables jointly and independently accounted for terrorism acts, these included anti-social personality traits, religious beliefs, and childhood maltreatment. Demographic variables accounting for terrorism included age, religion, ethnicity, socio-economic status and educational qualification of individuals.

Consequently, the researchers; Ejike and Nwabueze (2018) recommended that terrorism is explained by the interaction of both psychological and demographic variables. In this light it was thus suggested that the mitigation against terrorism i.e. counterterrorism should consider the psychological and demographic information of terrorism risk population. In summary, the aforementioned review of related studies reflects the previous findings that have been carried out on the psychodemographic correlates of terrorism, and thus reflects certain gaps in knowledge. Hence, the present paper will enrich literature y addressing some of these lacuna in knowledge.

IV. DISCUSSION

The above related studies reflects that terrorism is largely accounted for by numerous factors, many of which are both psychological and socio-demographic in nature, hence it is imperative for counterterrorism programs to include both psychological and demographic measures in designing such programs. The first discussion has it that most findings from literature indicated that terrorism in Africa has both positive and negative implications on the development of Africa which affect affects Africans infrastructural development and health wise, and this may be due to the fact that terrorism as an act is a reflection of the perception of individuals towards the certain state activities that are ongoing in the state. Secondly, literature search also suggested that the major causes of terrorism in Africa was largely caused by non-military factors that is they were largely attributed to psycho-social-political factors. In this light, the application of military forces alone as a counterterrorism measure may be in adequate if the non-military factors that largely account for it are unaddressed.

Thirdly, the roles of psychological and socio-demographic variables in accounting for terrorism implies that there are both psychological and socio-demographic dimensions to understanding terrorism. This may be due to the fact thatterrorism can be ether a group or individual act, hence it is expected that there should be

certain psychological and social processes to carrying out acts of terrorism. In summary, the aforementioned discussion provides a discussion on the findings from the literature search and thus suggests possible explanations backing such findings, thus enriching our knowledge of the psycho-demographic factors accounting for terrorism in Africa.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

Going by the aforementioned presentation of literature search, the following will be the recommendations for the present paper:

1. The researcher firstly recommends that counterterrorism measures must include measures against psychological and socio-demographic factors that account terrorists/risk population.
2. Because certain religious beliefs were found to influence the formation of terrorists groups, it is recommended that through the implementation of cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), group therapy, psychoeducation programs or other programs that help restructure thoughts and beliefs of people, there may be a restructuring in the religious beliefs of people that increases their chances for terrorism.
3. It is recommended that victims/survivors of terrorists' attacks should undergo a compulsory psychological management program, because an unhealthy individual cannot contribute positively to the development of Africa.
4. Fourthly, it isrecommended that in order to prevent the negative implications of terrorism on Africa's development, frequent assessment of the factors that propel African inhabitants to terrorism is required.
5. Fifthly it is also recommended that African governments and international organizations should provide aid programs against poverty, because poverty accounted largely for cats of terrorism according to literature search.
6. Lastly, because of the dynamism of the factors accounting terrorism, it is recommended that further studies will be required to provide further clarity on this dynamism.

In conclusion, terrorism in Africa is largely accounted for by both psychological and socio-demographic information. In addition, terrorism has both positive and negative implications on Africa's development. All these were thus presented and discussed extensively in this paper.

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