

ATTITUDES OF CIVIL SERVANTS TO THE USE OF DOMESTIC HELPERS IN SOUTHWEST NIGERIA

Omotosho, Babatunde Joshua (Ph.D)

Department of Sociology, Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria

&

Adefolaju, Toyin (Ph.D)

Department of Sociology, Faculty of the Social Sciences

Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria

Corresponding Author E-Mail: toyinremi2003@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

The issue of child labour has been a matter of concern across the globe. Several children in some parts of the world have become victims of various abuses such as rape, trafficking, oppression and even death. In response to this, several concerned bodies and groups both at governmental and non-governmental levels have risen to this challenge. In spite of these efforts, one of the areas that pose a challenge is domestic child labour for which eradication and documentation have become problematic. Equally, studies have not paid attention on the employers of these domestic helpers. This study therefore seeks to understand the attitude of employers to domestic helpers, using some civil servants in the six states that constitute southwest Nigeria. Two hundred and twenty-nine (229) copies of questionnaire were purposively distributed among the respondents who engage the services of domestic helpers in the six states. For qualitative data, a total of 30 in-depth interviews were conducted to complement the quantitative data collected. Findings revealed that the employers of domestic helpers were indifferent to efforts made to reduce child labour. Attempts made at curbing domestic child labour may be difficult at the moment. The study suggests how domestic child labour could be reduced, and in the meantime, ameliorate the challenges faced by the domestic helpers.

Keywords: Domestic, Helper, Victims, Nigeria, Challenges.