Full Length Research Paper

The Security Factor in Urban Residential Mobility in Enugu Metropolitan Area of Enugu State, South-Eastern Nigeria

Basil U. Eze*, Omole O. Oluyomi and Merit T. Ikechukwu

Department of Geography and Meteorology, Faculty of Environmental Sciences, Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Enugu, Nigeria.

Abstract

This paper examined through survey research the role of security in urban residential mobility in the Enugu metropolitan area of Enugu state, Nigeria. The stratified random sampling technique was used in selecting the sampled population from the three Local Government Areas that make up Enugu Urban area, namely; Enugu North, Enugu East, and Enugu South. The data were presented in tabular forms. Chi-square statistical method was used to test the hypothesis, the result of the test showed that the calculated value is 26.12 while the table value at 95% confidence level is 3.84. This means, therefore, that there is a significant relationship between security and intra-urban migration. This implies that security influences significantly, residential mobility within Enugu urban area. Most of the motive of the migrants was to live in a secured house and environment. Among the recommendations proffered is the installation of security surveillance gadgets in strategic locations within Enugu urban to ensure that the lives and properties of its citizens are well protected.

Keywords: Security, Urban, Residential Mobility, Enugu Metropolitan.

INTRODUCTION

Migration tends to be viewed as a security issue in security studies since the 1980s. Residential mobility which is also known as urban residential relocation or. Intra-urban migration has attracted the interest of scholars in the social sciences and Environmental Sciences. Intra-urban migration can be described as a truly interdisciplinary field that focused on population relocation within the city and cause implications and related policy issues of that relocation (Eze 2003). Residential migration or mobility occurs due to some factors which can be availability of water, family expansion, security, school, working places etc.

The selection of new residence within the city, according to Smith (2001) has often been characterized by a complex process of decision making under uncertainty. One approach is to conceptualize the intra-urban migration process in two stages; the decision to move and the actual choice of destination. The issue raised by population migration within a city or an urban area have been examined from almost all disciplinary prospective, particularly by sociologists, who are interested in the demographic influence on mobility, by economists who focused on the link between mobility and housing market; by geographers who are concerned with an overall analysis of the changing spatial structure of the city in relation to mobility; and by historians who considered the implication of residential mobility on the formation of ethnic areas within the city (Clark 2003).

Corresponding author email: ezebasil24@yahoo.com

Nowadays, residential mobility issue in different urban areas has been taken into consideration because of the inevitable cause and effect relationship between the intra-urban migration and its socio-spatial structure, especially in the analysis of urban social geography (Shalyn and Cloud, 2003). The movement of the families from a residential area to other neighborhood in the city plays a major role in the formation or change of urban social zones. Although migration shapes and changes social and demographic structure of the neighborhood, it is conditioned by the social structure of the city (Wu, 2006). Mobility patterns of immigrants may be influenced by factors such as proximity to workplace, duration of residence, employment status, income, age, security, gender and family circumstances (Wu, 2006). Intra-urban movement of the families has obvious consequences on the land market, housing and rent, new housing construction and renovation and repair of existing housing, residential density in different parts of the city and forms and changes in the social zone within the cities.

The variations in the reactions of states to international migration and their changes over time seem so great that one despairs of identifying some general explanation for when and why migration is regarded as destabilizing and a threat to a country or people's security. One answer lies in how societies define "security"; if we understand security not simply as protection against armed attack, but more broadly as the absence of threat to major societal values, then security has different meanings among different societies. Preserving one's ethnic character may be more highly valued in an ethnically homogeneous than a heterogeneous society. Providing a haven for those who share one's presumptive universal values (political freedom, for example) is important in some countries, not in others. Moreover, what is highly valued may not be shared by cites and country elites.

Since its inception the security studies represent the core of the International Relations, predominantly dealing with the issues of war and peace. In the years following the Second World War security studies have become a synonym for strategic studies with a distinct focus on the military sector. However, with the growing complexity of the international relations agenda, namely with the rise of economic and environmental challenges, the emergence of the new security challenges, risks and threats, the emergence of the new international relations actors, the traditional view of the sole concept of security, that is, its essence, have become too narrow. Buzan (1991) defines security as pursuit of freedom threats. Baldwin (2007), formulates entire series of questions- security for whom, security for which values, how much security, from what threats, by what means, at what cost, in what time period - that should make an appropriate analytical framework for future security studies. Therefore, the definition of the terms itself is not enough; a particular textual organization is also required.

Much study has been done on factors influencing residential mobility or relocation, yet little work has been carried out on the influence of security on residential mobility in the Enugu urban area. This research fills this gap.

STUDY AREA

This study was carried out in the Enugu urban of Enugu state, Nigeria. This study area is located between the geographical coordinate of latitude 6°30N and longitude 7°30E. Enugu state is located in the southeastern part of Nigeria and it's relatively located in the midst of other states in the North West of Kogi state, in the southwest of Abia State, southern neighbor is Imo State while the west is Anambra state. Enugu urban is situated in Enugu South, Enugu north and Enugu East Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Enugu State. The Enugu urban area was the administrative Capital of former East Central, State and now the present capital of Enugu state; it is surrounded by the Igbo Etiti LGA in the north while south and west are Nkanu and Udi L.G.A respectively.

The population of the Enugu urban area which is known as Enugu city is 722,664 according to the disputed 2006 Nigeria's census and nearly two million according to 2015 estimates (Enugu city directory). Enugu is located in a tropical rain forest zone with a derived savannah; the city has a tropical savanna climate. Enugu has good soil-land and climatic conditions all year round, sitting at about 223 metres (732 ft) above sea level, and the soil is well drained during its rainy seasons.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Survey design was used by distributing a questionnaire to collect data from the study area. The study area comprises of three Local Government Areas (L.G.As) Namely; Enugu North, Enugu East, and Enugu South (Enugu metropolis). The combined population of the three LGA is 722,664 according to the 2006 National population census. The stratified sampling technique was used to select respondents from Enugu North, Enugu South and Enugu East Local Government Areas (L.G.As). The researchers drew a sample of five hundred (500) respondents from the total population of the Enugu urban area of people who have relocated since moving into Enugu Metropolis.

Using the stratified sampling technique, the questionnaires were distributed randomly in the three LGA of Enugu Metropolis, (Enugu East, Enugu North and Enugu South). The total of one hundred and seventy (170) questionnaires was distributed to Enugu North; one hundred and ninety-three (193) questionnaires were distributed to Enugu East and one hundred and thirty-seven (137) to Enugu South. The sum total of the

questionnaires distributed to the three areas is five hundred (500).

The data gotten from the questionnaires were presented and analyzed using simple percentage. The data were presented in tables; Chi-square statistical tool was used to test the hypothesis formulated. Chi – square (x^2) is stated as follows:

$$X^2 = \left\{ \left(\frac{0-E}{E}\right)^2 \right\}$$

Where:

X^2 = chi–square
O = Observed
E = Expected value.

RESULTS

Table1

Shows that a total number of five hundred (500) questionnaires were distributed to the three (3) LGAs that comprise the study area and four hundred and eighty-nine (489) was filled and returned appropriately showing a return rate of 98%.

Table 2

One hundred and fourteen (114) respondents are transporters, fifty (50) respondents are clergy, forty-five (45) respondents were unemployed, eleven (11) respondents were farmers, one hundred and thirty (130) respondents were traders and one hundred and thirty-nine (139) respondents were civil servants. From the data gotten one can see that 9.2% of the population captured is unemployed, while the majorities are civil servants.

Table 3

It is seen that most of the respondents who took security into consideration before choosing their residential area/ housing were greater than those that did not consider security. From the table it is seen that three hundred and one (301) respondents considered a security while one hundred and eighty-eight (188) respondents did not.

Table 4

Shows that Enugu north has the highest security, the rate of low security is 34%, followed by a moderate security rate of 33% and a high security rate of 33% of the whole of the Enugu urban area. From the personal experience of the researchers, the level of security in Enugu urbanization is on the moderate side.

Table 5

Shows that the rate of child trafficking is the highest height of insecurity in Enugu metropolis, where parents engage their children in different activities endangering the lives of their children for monetary benefits. From the data collected, it is seen that Enugu East has the highest level of insecurity issue with a value of 305 responses from the respondents, followed by Enugu South with a value 291 and then Enugu north with a value of 121. The rate of child trafficking took the first place in the ranking order, followed by an armed robbery attack and then cultism.

Table 6

The table illustrates the measures for solving this security challenge. Provision of employment had the highest percentage rate of 29%, while proper enforcement of security laws was next in rank, having a percentage rate of 19.6%. The least among the measures in preventing security challenges in the respondents' area is the construction of adequate drainage having a percentage of 8.1%. The researchers observed that the people clamor for the provision of employment, as a measure of securing the area to avoid the social vices that cause insecurity in Enugu urban.

INFERENTIAL STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

The following hypothesis was tested:

Null hypothesis H_0

Security is not a significant factor of urban residential mobility in the Enugu Metropolitan Area.

Alternate hypothesis H_1

Security is a significant factor of urban residential mobility in the Enugu Metropolitan Area.

Using chi-square

$$X^2 = \left\{ \left(\frac{0-E}{E}\right)^2 \right\}$$

Calculated value: 26:12
X^2 0.05 tabulated value 3.84

DECISION

X^2 calculated > x^2 tabulated. H_0 is therefore rejected and H_1 accepted. This indicates that security is a significant factor instigating urban residential relocation in the Enugu Metropolitan Area. Thus, there is a statistically significant relationship between urban residential mobility and security in the study area.

Table 1. Number of Questionnaire Distributed and Retrieved from Each Local Government Area of the Study Area

Area	Number Distributed	Number Retrieved	Return Rate (%)	Percentage (%)	Rank
Enugu South	137	134	98	27.4	3rd
Enugu East	193	189	98	38.6	1st
Enugu North	170	166	98	34.0	2nd
Total	500	489	98	100%	

Source: Field survey, 2016

Table 2. Occupation Statuses of the Respondents

Status	Enugu south	Enugu East	Enugu North	Total	%	Rank
Transporter	39	38	38	114	23.3	3rd
Clergy	12	18	20	50	10.2	4th
Unemployed	8	16	21	45	9.2	5th
Farmer	3	5	3	11	2.2	6th
Trader	37	52	41	130	26.6	2nd
Civil Servant	35	60	44	139	139	1st
	134	189	166	489	100	

Source; Field Survey, 2016

Table 3. Number of Respondences That Considered Security before relocation

Responds	Number of Respondents			Total	%	Rank
	Enugu South	Enugu East	Enugu North			
Yes	92	99	110	301	61.6	1st
No	42	90	56	188	38.4	2nd
Total	134	189	166	489	100	

Source: Field Survey, 2016

Table 4. Level of Security in the Study Area

Level	Number of Respondents			Total	%	Rank
	Enugu South	Enugu East	Enugu North			
Low	50	85	33	168	34.0	1st
Moderate	44	63	55	162	33.0	2nd
High	40	41	78	159	33.0	3rd
Total	134	189	166	489	100	

Source: field survey, 2016

Table 5: Security Challenges in the Study Area

Social vices	Numbers of Respondents			Total	%	Rank
	Enugu South	Enugu East	Enugu North			
Cultism	60	74	38	172	24.0	3rd
Armed robbery	75	80	30	185	26.0	2nd
Kidnapping	25	18	15	58	8.0	5th
Child trafficking	89	94	30	213	29.7	1st
Terrorism	10	12	4	26	3.6	6th
Flooding	32	27	4	63	8.7	4th
Total	291 (40.6%)	305 (42.5%	121(16.9%)	717	100	

Source: Field survey, 2016

Table 6: Measures To Prevent Security Challenges in the Study Area

Measures	Numbers of Respondents			Total	%	Rank
	Enugu South	Enugu East	Enugu North			
Security awareness programmes	12	180	45	237	16.2	3rd
Increase security Agents patrol	75	120	11	206	14.0	4th
Installation of security gadgets	12	30	150	192	13.1	5th
Proper enforcement of security laws	75	50	162	287	19.6	2nd
Provision of employment	132	165	129	426	29.0	1st
Construction of adequate drainage	96	22	1	119	8.1	6th
Total	402	567	498	1467	100	

Source: Field Survey, 2016

DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

This study has shown how security influences the choice of houses and areas when resident relocation occurs. From this research it was seen that a good number of persons considered a security before relocating to other residential areas. According to Coupe and Morgan (2001), changes in household and personal characteristics are not the only factors that should be considered in household relocation studies. From the researchers' findings, it is an eye opening how people migrate or relocate from one house to another or from one residential area to another, all because of searching for a more secured environment.

From observation, the researchers found out that most people who are moving into town newly do not take security into proper consideration, because their major aims is to find a house or an area to reside. This can be because the new migrants are uncertain of the new environment. This observation supports the work of Smith et al., (2001); they suggest that the selection of new residence within the city has often been characterized by a complex process of decision making under uncertainty.

Furthermore, the findings of this research work contradict the views of Boheim and Taylor (2002) who were of the opinion that the structure of local housing markets and residential location vis-a-vis employment opportunities plays a role in the decision to move. This however seems far from the present day reality and as Wu (2006) opines that "mobility patterns of immigrants may be influenced by factors such as proximity to workplace, duration of residence, employment status, income, age, security, gender and family circumstances".

Schacter (2001), in his research works says that most moves are driven by housing and environmental reasons such as the desire to own a home, upgrade to a nicer and a more secured home or neighborhood and get into a home of a more appropriate size. From the researchers' findings, the security of the house or an environment determines or influences the choice of their residential

movement. The more an area or a house is insecure, the more people migrate from that area, seeking for a more secured house and environment. This is equally robust corroborated by inferential statistical analysis, which confirmed a statistically significant relationship between urban residential mobility and security in the study area.

From the researchers' investigation, among all the security measures listed during the course of the study, provision of employment was considered as a major way to solve insecurity problems, followed by proper enforcement of security laws. The research equally found other factors that affect intra-urban migration, such as dirty environment, poor housing, noise pollution, the desire for higher education, bad road network, low power supply, etc. It was observed that the above factors were also influencing intra-urban migration, but not at the same rate as security influences residential mobility. Security according to the research had more influence on the choice of people to migrate from one residential area to another.

It was also observed that most people migrating from other areas to a new urban site do not consider security as much as those that have lived in that urban area, this could be as a result of the urgent desire to relocate to the new city.

Security is a broad topic as the researchers were able to analyze factors that increase insecurity such as cultism, armed robbery, kidnapping, raping, terrorism, insecurity characteristics; as flooding causes loss of life, especially children, properties, land degradation etc.

CONCLUSION

Measures to curb insecurity in Enugu Metropolis as elicited from the respondents such as security awareness programs, increasing security agent's patrol; Installation of security gadgets amongst others equally double as the recommendations for this work. These measures become salient as it is confirmed in this work that security is the major underlying factor instigating residential mobility. Other factors are of course important, but it is said that in as much as urbanization and development of a city is important, the security of the city is twice more important. It behooves the government therefore to become more keen in protecting the lives, environments and properties of urban residents as this should enhance social cohesion and stability and reduce the incidence of residential relocation due to fear of insecurity.

REFERENCES

Baldwin, D., (2007). *"The concept of security"*, in Review of international studies, No.23, pp.5-26.

Buzan, B. (1991). People, *states and fear*: An Agenda for security analysis in the Post- Cold War Era. Brighton: Weatsheaf

Clark, W.A.V. (2003). *Residential Mobility and Behavioral Geography: Parallelism or interdependent*? New York, Revisted Methuen, 181-187

Eze, B.U. (2003). "*A Review of Urban Residential Mobility Models and Implications for Urban Spatial Organization in Nigeria"*, Nigerian Journal of Unity and Development, 2.

Huysmans, J., (1998). "*Security! What Do You Mean?* From Concept to Thick Signifier", European Journal of International Relations, NO. 4, pp. 226-255.

Knox, P., & Pinch, S. (2014). *Urban social geography: an introduction*. New York: Routledge

Smith, M. P.,(2001), *Transnational Urbanism: Locating Globalization*, Malden MA: Blackwell.

Wu, W. (2006) Intra-urban Residential Mobility in Urban China, *Housing Studies,* 21**,** 745-765.