

## Contributions of Agricultural Products Street Hawking To Urban Children Wellbeing In Ibadan Metropolis, Oyo-State, Nigeria

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### Abstract

*The study assessed the contributions of agricultural products street hawking to urban children wellbeing in Ibadan metropolis of Oyo state Nigeria. Data were collected on socio-economic characteristics, benefits involved, challenges, constraints, and problems; attitude of the respondents and the subjective wellbeing of the respondents. A multi stage sampling technique was used to select respondents for the study. Snowball technique was used to purposively select children that hawked agricultural products. A total of one hundred and forty-three (143) respondents were used for the study. Data obtained were analysed using both descriptive and inferential statistics such as frequency count, percentage, mean, rank, standard deviation and chi-square analysis. The results showed that 57.3% of the respondents were female while 42.7% were male, with mean age of  $12.0 \pm 2.8$ . Household size ( $\bar{x} = 6.2 \pm 2.5$ ), mean of estimated daily income of the respondents was  $1324.1 \pm 519.6$ , with  $5.6 \pm 1.5$  average number of days spent hawking per week. The top three reasons respondent gave for involving in street hawking includes poverty ( $\bar{x} = 1.48 \pm 0.5$ ) support the family ( $\bar{x} = 1.52 \pm 0.5$ ) and unemployment nature of their parents ( $\bar{x} = 1.78 \pm 0.4$ ). More than half (59.4%) of the respondents considered street hawking beneficial. Educationally, most (65.0%) of the respondents have poor wellbeing, while 53.8% and 53.1% have good psychological and health wellbeing respectively. In general, majority (83.2%) of the respondents had poor wellbeing status ( $\bar{x} = 97.39 \pm 13.7$ ). Significant relationship exist between parent marital status ( $\chi^2 = 8.371$ ;  $p = 0.039$ ), household size ( $r = 19.689$ ;  $p = 0.032$ ), daily income ( $r = 26.285$ ;  $p = 0.035$ ) and wellbeing status; as well as poverty (0.000) and unemployment of parents (0.003) as factors influencing street hawking and wellbeing status of the respondents. It is concluded that the wellbeing status of children who hawk agricultural products in Ibadan Metropolis was poor in spite of the income earned from the hawking. Efficient and effective delivery of social safety net programmes should be put in place to improve the poverty situation of parents and discourage/reduce street hawking practices among children.*

Keywords: Agricultural products, Street hawking, Urban children, Wellbeing.

### 1.0 Introduction

Agriculture was the bedrock of economic development in Nigeria before the discovery of oil which caused the nation to tilt from an agrarian economy to an oil dependent economy. Despite this, agriculture has continuously provided food for the ever increasing population, raw materials for industrial uses and created millions of direct and indirect job opportunities for large number of people across different age groups in Nigeria. The shift from agriculture to industrialization initially brought about technological, infrastructural and economic expansion, more employment opportunities and changes in the roles of children among others. The end result of this change produced a lot of problems in the cities, some of which are housing issues, high rate of crimes, congestion on both social and infrastructural amenities and so on. The agrarian-based economy which encouraged large family size faded away, smaller families coupled with low or moderate fertility rate became encouraged. Increased migration out of the rural areas has increased the rate of menial and child labour activities of various forms in the urban areas with Child Street hawking as the most common. (Giddens, 2009; Haralambos and Holborn, 2007).

Aiyehuro (2009) defines hawking as a system of trading whereby the trader carries his wares about. Street

hawking refers to a wandering like movement in which an individual carries his or her goods with a tray on the head or by means of transportation such as wheel barrow, bicycle or trolley in search of customers. Ezenwa (2011) opines that an adolescent street hawker is a person under the age of 15 years who hawks goods and renders services on the commercial road or street. Street hawking by a child in its simplest form is the selling of things along the roads or by moving from one place to the other by children (Umar, 2009). Street hawking is very common and widely practised in different parts of Nigeria especially in urban cities. Different age groups are found engaging in street hawking offering different goods and products for sale including agricultural products.

The dramatic increase in child labour and street hawking in Nigeria may be attributed to several factors. These factors include the rapid population growth of many less developed countries, high rate of unemployment, inflation, low wages and deplorable working condition which have propelled children to engage in street hawking in order to support their families financial situation (Charles and Charles, 2004; William, 2008). Structural inequalities, poverty and inequality were identified as major causes of street trading and child labour (Nwabueze, 1992; Appel, 2009). According to Okojie (1987) adverse economic

environment, underemployment, massive retrenchment, unemployment and a poor quality of life are factors that encourage child street hawking. Thus, parents were compelled to send their children on street hawking to manage the consequential economic hardship, irrespective of the risks and consequences of such decision on the children. In addition, Ebigbo and Abaja, (2003) state that children trade for their school fees and other personal needs by hawking on the street in eastern and western parts of Nigeria. Most of these children are forced to believe that they have to contribute financially to their wellbeing and to that of their families hence, they are coerced to do so by hawking agricultural products on the street under harsh environmental condition.

However, street hawking by children could be beneficial despite the challenges and problems associated as far as the wellbeing of the children that engages in street hawking is concern. Wellbeing according to Itismita and Robert (2012) is defined as a level of health, happiness or prosperity of an individual experiences. In consonance with this definition, wellbeing is not a stage but a state which changes with time and while someone can be in a state of wellbeing at a time, he may not be in the same state at another if those factors making him feel well have been taken away. Therefore, it means some level of wealth will increase human wellbeing even though he may not be absolutely happy. However, it should be noted that happiness is functional and what defines happiness varies from people to people. Thus, even when there are measures to serve as evidence that someone has a high wellbeing the

real fact seems to be subjective as the person feels within. Based on the above factors which had for long forced the children in developing countries like Nigeria into hawking activities as stated by some scholars, efforts should now be made to find out whether these hawking activities especially agricultural products have improved the wellbeing of urban children. Hence, the following objectives:

The general objective of the study was to examine the contributions of agricultural products street hawking to urban children wellbeing in Ibadan Metropolis, Oyo State, Nigeria, with the following specific objectives, which are to:

- identify the socio-economic characteristics of respondents involved in street hawking in Ibadan Metropolis.
- ascertain the benefits derived from engaging in street hawking of agricultural products.
- evaluate the factors that contribute to respondents' participation in street hawking.
- determine the wellbeing status of respondents.

Hypotheses of the study are stated as follows:

- H<sub>0</sub>1: There is no significant relationship between selected socio-economic characteristics and wellbeing of respondents in the study area.
- H<sub>0</sub>2: There is no significant relationship between factors influencing respondents' participation in street hawking and the wellbeing of respondents in the study area.

## 2.0

### Methodology

#### 2.1 Study area

The study was carried out in Ibadan metropolis, of Oyo State, Nigeria. Ibadan is the capital city of Oyo state which is located in south-western Nigeria. Ibadan is in the south-eastern part of Oyo state and about 120km east of the border with the republic of Benin in the forest zone close to the boundary between the forest and the savannah. It covers a total of 3,080 square kilometre of land mass. The city ranges in elevation from 150m in the valley area, to 275m above sea level on the major north-south ridge which crosses the central part of the city.

Ibadan metropolis consists of five local government areas having a population figure of approximately 2,550,593 in which about 37 percent of the population engage in agriculture according to 2006 population census. Business and trading are major primary activities of the people. The study focused on the five local government areas which

include Ibadan North, Ibadan North-East, Ibadan North-West, Ibadan South-East, and Ibadan South-West.

The target population were children that hawk agricultural products on selected major streets of Ibadan metropolis. This specifically points to those children between ages of 5-15 years who are involved in the act of street hawking in Ibadan metropolis. This age group of respondents were described as adolescent street hawkers by Ezenwa (2011).

A multi-stage sampling procedure was used to select 143 respondents for the study. At the first stage, all the local Government Areas (LGAs) in the Ibadan Metropolis were selected for the study, the second stage involved the purposive selection of thirty children who hawked agricultural products on the major streets from each LGAs using snowball sampling technique. A total of 143 respondents were selected for the study. The data collected were analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistics which include frequency counts, percentages, mean, standard deviation rank and chi-square analysis.

## 3.0

### Result and Discussion

**3.1 Age:** The results on Table 1 reveal that the mean age and standard deviation of the respondents were 12.0 ±2.8 years. Less than half (46.9%) of the respondents

were within the ages of 9 – 13 years, while 39.9% were of ages between 14 and 17 years and 13.3% were between the ages of 4 and 8 years. This result corroborates Ojo and Raji (2013) who observed that street hawking is

predominant among the age bracket of 10-14 years, followed by ages greater than 14 years. According to Ojo and Raji (2013) the reason children of ages between 12 and 14 years are more involved in street hawking was because at this age bracket, life adventure is usually pronounced and hawking is considered as one of the life adventures for these children.

**Sex:** The results on Table 1 show that more than half (57.3%) of the respondents were females while 42.7% were male. The figure implies that more female children were involved in the sales of agricultural products on the street in the study area than males. The result is in consonance with Ojo and Raji (2013) who also observed that female children were more involved in street hawking than their male counterpart. Culturally, it is believed in the area of study that female children are good at petty trading which is done mostly through street hawking than their male counterparts. While male children of the age group of this study will be playing football in the neighbourhood streets, the female child is rather on an errand for the mother in the process of preparing meal for the family or be on the street hawking for the benefit of the family.

**3.2 Religion:** The result in Table 1 further revealed that more than half (56.6%) of the respondents practised Islam while 43.4% practised Christianity. The result agreed with Ojo and Raji (2013) who also observed that children who engage in street hawking practised Islam than Christianity. Also, Lantana (2010) asserts that religion is one of the social causes of children street hawking. According to the scholar, Islamic religion encourage youth especially female child to hawk in preparing them to be self-reliant in marriage. This means street hawking has some religious implications.

**3.3 Educational status:** Table 1 shows that 53.1% of the respondents did not complete their secondary school, 52.0% were yet to complete their primary education while 7.7% and 2.8% completed their primary and secondary schools respectively. This result implies that majority of the children involved in agricultural products street hawking went to school but couldn't complete either

primary or secondary school due to some reasons. Inability of parents to afford their children school fees and lack of concentration on academic activities due to street hawking among other factors are responsible for low level of education among children hawking on the street. Invariably, many of the children engaging in street hawking activities could hardly finished their primary and secondary school education, and doubtlessly could end up as school dropouts. Johnson and Ihesie (2010) found that children that engage in street hawking record poor academic performance while some end up as drop outs.

### 3.4 Household size

The results in Table 1 revealed that 46.9% of the respondents had a household size of between 1 and 5 years, 44.8% had between 6 and 10 household size while 8.4% had 11-15, with mean score of  $6.2 \pm 2.5$ . This implies more than half (53.2%) of the respondents came from families with household size of more than 6 members. Large household size has been found be a reason for poverty and inability to give good education to children from such households. As stated by Olawuyi and Adetunji (2013) poverty is relatively high among households with large household size as compared to households with relative smaller size.

### 3.5 Estimated daily income

The mean score of income made daily from street hawking of agricultural products is

₦1,324.1  $\pm$  519.6 Naira as shown in Table 1. More than half (55.2%) of the respondents made between ₦1000 and ₦1500 sales on a daily basis, while 23.8% made more than ₦1500 daily and 21% made less than ₦1000 daily.. This implies that majority of the respondents were making above ₦500 on daily basis. Comparing the level of income from street hawking of agricultural products by the respondents with the relative large household size of some respondents, it could be inferred that the contributions of the hawking exercise to the wellbeing of the respondents and their household members would be very minimal.

**Table 1: Distribution of socio-economic characteristics of Agricultural products children street hawkers (n=143)**

| Variable                          | Frequency (N)         | Percentage (%) |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| <b>Age</b>                        |                       |                |
| 4-8                               | 19                    | 13.3           |
| 9-13                              | 67                    | 46.9           |
| 14-17                             | 57                    | 39.9           |
| Mean ( $\pm$ SD)                  | 12.0( $\pm$ 2.8)      |                |
| <b>Sex</b>                        |                       |                |
| Male                              | 61                    | 42.7           |
| Female                            | 82                    | 57.3           |
| <b>Educational status</b>         |                       |                |
| Incomplete Primary                | 52                    | 33.4           |
| Complete Primary                  | 11                    | 7.7            |
| Incomplete Secondary              | 76                    | 53.1           |
| Complete Secondary                | 4                     | 2.8            |
| <b>Household size</b>             |                       |                |
| 1-5                               | 67                    | 46.9           |
| 6-10                              | 64                    | 44.8           |
| 11-15                             | 12                    | 8.4            |
| Mean ( $\pm$ SD)                  | 6.2 ( $\pm$ 2.5)      |                |
| <b>Estimated daily income (₦)</b> |                       |                |
| <1000                             | 30                    | 21.0           |
| 1000-1500                         | 79                    | 55.2           |
| >1500                             | 34                    | 23.8           |
| Mean ( $\pm$ SD)                  | 1324.1 ( $\pm$ 519.6) |                |

**3.6 Types of agricultural products sold by participants**

The result of the analysis in Table 2 revealed the list of agricultural products children involved in street hawking sell. About 36.4% of the respondents sold vegetables, (31.5%) sold fruits, (15.4%) sold tubers, (11.9%) sold dairy products, (9.1%) sold processed foods and snacks, (5.6%) sold cereal and grains, 4.2% sold marine food, 2.1% sold meat and poultry, 1.4% sold beverages and juices and the remaining (1.4%) sold spices and condiments. It can be deduced that

majority (83.3%) of the respondents engaged in the sale of unprocessed agricultural produce which include vegetables, fruits and tubers. This implies that children play important role in the marketing of agricultural products in addition to their contributions in the agricultural production activities. The result also shows that some of the respondents were involved in the sales of more than one type of agricultural products.

**Table 2: Distribution of types of agricultural products sold by respondents**

| Variable                   | Frequency (N) | Percentage (%) |
|----------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Vegetables                 | 52            | 36.4           |
| Fruits                     | 45            | 31.5           |
| Tubers                     | 22            | 15.4           |
| Dairy products             | 17            | 11.9           |
| Processed foods and snacks | 13            | 9.1            |
| Cereal and Grains          | 8             | 5.6            |
| Marine food                | 6             | 4.2            |
| Meat and poultry           | 3             | 2.1            |
| Beverages and Juices       | 2             | 1.4            |
| Spices and Condiments      | 2             | 1.4            |

\* = Multiple responses

**Source: Field survey 2017**

**3.7 Level of involvement of respondents in street hawking**

Table 3a shows that majority (65.1%) of the respondents engaged in street hawking virtually every day, while 24.5% hawk for 4 to 5 days a week. This was categorized into level

of involvement in agricultural product street hawking by the respondents as shown in Table 3b. The result shows that majority (82.5%) were actively involved in agricultural product street hawking while the remaining few (17.5%) were passively involved with respect to the number of days

they hawked per week. A child who engages in street hawking for up to 4 days in a week will have little or no time for other activities such as schooling. Obviously, there is tendency for children involving in street hawking to be school dropouts, which might result in vicious cycle of

poverty in the families of such children on the long run. Empirically, it has been documented that lack of proper education (illiteracy) has a link with poverty (Nishara, 2003).

**Table 3a: Distribution of level of involvement of respondents in street hawking**

| Number of days of hawking in a week | Frequency        | Percentage |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------|
| Once                                | 4                | 2.8        |
| Twice                               | 6                | 4.2        |
| Thrice                              | 5                | 3.5        |
| Four days                           | 10               | 7.0        |
| Five days                           | 25               | 17.5       |
| Six days                            | 46               | 32.2       |
| Every day                           | 47               | 32.9       |
| Mean ( $\pm$ SD)                    | 5.6 ( $\pm$ 1.5) |            |

**Table 3b: Distribution of level of involvement of respondents in street hawking**

| Level of Involvement | Frequency (N) | Percentages (%) |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Actively involved    | 118           | 82.5            |
| Passively involved   | 25            | 17.5            |

**Source: Field survey 2017**

### 3.8

#### **Reasons for participation in street hawking of agricultural products**

The result in Table 4 revealed that more than half (52.4%) of the respondents engaged in hawking agricultural products because their parents were poor, while 46.2% of the respondents expressed that they hawk to support their families and 22.4% indicated that because their parents were unemployed. Few (8.4%) of the respondents expressed that they engaged in street hawking of agricultural products because they had little or no formal

education. This finding corroborate Lantana, (2010) and Raji *et al*, (2017) that family poverty situation and the need to fend for themselves prompted children to engage in street trading activities; and William, (2008) that children engaged in street hawking as a result of their parent unemployment situation. The implication of this finding is that the poverty situation of parents and high unemployment rate in the country is taking toll on children exposing them to risks associated with street hawking.

**Table 4: Distribution of respondents based on reasons for engaging in street hawking of agricultural products**

| Variable                  | Frequency (N) | Percentages (%) |
|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Poverty situation         | 75            | 52.4            |
| Support the family        | 66            | 46.2            |
| Unemployment ( of Parent) | 32            | 22.4            |
| Low/No Education          | 12            | 8.4             |
| Self sustenance           | 2             | 1.4             |

\* = Multiple responses

**Source: Field survey 2017**

### 3.9

#### **Benefit derived from participation in hawking agricultural products**

The findings in Table 5 indicate that benefits derived from participating in hawking agricultural products were money ( $\bar{x}$ =2.0), school fee ( $\bar{x}$ =1.8) and family support ( $\bar{x}$ =1.7). This implies that hawking of agricultural products is providing financial support to the families of children

engaged in hawking. This result corroborates Ojo, (2013) who reported that majority of the children who hawked benefited from the activity. The major benefit derived in the hawking activity is the financial income accrued to the respondents, which invariably resulted in other benefits such as school fees and support to family as indicated by the respondents.

**Table 5: Distribution of respondents based on the benefits derived from Street hawking of Agricultural products**

|                    | Not a benefit<br>Frequency (%) | Moderately<br>beneficial<br>Frequency (%) | Highly Beneficial<br>Frequency (%) | Mean | Std.dev | Rank |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------|---------|------|
| Money              | 0 (0)                          | 3 (2.1)                                   | 140 (97.9)                         | 2.0  | ±0.1    | 1    |
| Friendship         | 19 (13.3)                      | 29 (20.3)                                 | 95 (66.4)                          | 1.5  | ±0.7    | 4    |
| Family support     | 1 (0.7)                        | 41 (28.7)                                 | 101 (70.6)                         | 1.7  | ±0.5    | 3    |
| School Fee         | 2 (1.4)                        | 27 (18.9)                                 | 114 (79.7)                         | 1.8  | ±0.4    | 2    |
| Sense of Belonging | 49 (34.3)                      | 29 (20.3)                                 | 65 (45.5)                          | 1.1  | ±0.9    | 5    |
| Grand Mean         |                                |                                           |                                    | 1.62 |         |      |

\* = Multiple responses

Source: Field survey 2017

### 3.10

#### Challenges, Constraints and Problems faced by children engaged in hawking of Agricultural products.

Result in Table 6 shows that stealing of products being sold (90.9%), sexual harassment (90.2%) and risk of road accident (85.3%) were considered as serious challenges by respondents in the course of hawking their agricultural products. Also, exposure to hot weather under the sun and body pain/injury resulting from the hawking activities was indicated as constraints by 66.4% and 46.9% of the respondents respectively, this was also considered as

problems encountered in the process of hawking agricultural products. By implication, the constraints, challenges and problems encountered by children hawking on the street predisposed them to risks associated with the activity and invariably increased their vulnerability. This finding is in accordance with Umar (2009), and Johnson and Ihesie (2015) that children hawking on the street are exposed to various risks such as sexual abuse, kidnapping accidents, pain/injuries and other forms of assault.

**Table 6: Distribution of Challenge, Constraint and Problem faced by children engaged in hawking of Agricultural products**

| Variables Challenges                                                                           | Challenge<br>N (%) | Constraint<br>N (%) | Problem<br>N (%) | Mean | Rank |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|------|------|
| On several occasions, I have experienced Road accidents while hawking my goods.                | 122 (85.3)         | 17 (11.9)           | 4 (2.8)          | 1.71 | 6    |
| I often experience selling my goods and the buyer refuses to pay.                              | 130 (90.9)         | 7 (4.9)             | 6 (4.2)          | 1.48 | 9    |
| I often experience people touching my private areas in the course of selling my goods to them. | 129 (90.2)         | 10 (7.0)            | 4 (2.8)          | 1.35 | 10   |
| I think pains/ body injuries I experience are due to hawking.                                  | 41 (28.7)          | 67 (46.9)           | 35 (24.5)        | 3.38 | 2    |
| I often experience people stealing my goods.                                                   | 130 (90.9)         | 10 (7.0)            | 3 (2.1)          | 1.57 | 8    |
| People abuse me when I don't have change.                                                      | 117 (81.8)         | 11 (7.7)            | 15 (10.5)        | 1.83 | 5    |
| I have to walk long distances just to find change for people.                                  | 86 (60.7)          | 35 (24.5)           | 22 (15.4)        | 2.45 | 3    |
| The sun is always hot whenever I hawk in the street.                                           | 11 (7.7)           | 95 (66.4)           | 37 (25.9)        | 3.86 | 1    |
| The rain usually beats me whenever I hawk.                                                     | 103 (72)           | 18 (12.6)           | 22 (15.4)        | 1.99 | 4    |
| I lose my products due to lack of strength to carry them from one place to another.            | 121 (84.6)         | 11 (7.7)            | 11 (7.7)         | 1.67 | 7    |
| Grand mean                                                                                     |                    |                     |                  | 2.13 |      |

Source: Field survey 2017

### 3.11

#### Respondents' wellbeing Status in the study area

The results in Table 7 show the wellbeing status of the respondents. Table 7 reveals that majority (83.2%) of the respondents had poor wellbeing status while only 16.8% had good wellbeing status. The reason that can be deduced from this finding could be the poverty status of the households which made the children exposed to hawking on the streets. As indicated by respondents 53.8% and 53.1%

of the respondents were of good psychological and health wellbeing status respectively. In contrast, larger proportion (65.0%) had a poor educational wellbeing while only 35.0% had good education wellbeing status. In general terms wellbeing status of majority (83.2%) of the respondents was poor, only 16.8% had good wellbeing status despite the benefits derived from hawking exercise.

**Table 7: Distribution of respondents' wellbeing status**

|                                                                                                              | Level of Wellbeing status |           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
|                                                                                                              | Poor (%)                  | Good (%)  |
| <b>Wellbeing</b><br><b>Psychological Wellbeing</b><br>( $\bar{x}$ = 32.6, $\pm$ 6.2, minimum 22.0, max 50.0) | 66 (46.2)                 | 77 (53.8) |
| <b>Health Wellbeing</b><br>( $\bar{x}$ = 33.9, minimum 18.0, maximum 50.0, $\pm$ 6.7)                        | 67 (46.9)                 | 76 (53.1) |
| <b>Educational Wellbeing</b><br>( $\bar{x}$ = 30.9, minimum 18.0, maximum 50.0, $\pm$ 4.2)                   | 93(65.0)                  | 50 (35.0) |
| <b>Total Wellbeing</b><br>( $\bar{x}$ = 97.4, minimum 58.0, maximum 135.0, $\pm$ 13.7)                       | 119 (83.2)                | 24 (16.8) |

**Source: Field survey 2017**

**Hypothesis 1**

The results in Table 8 revealed that significant relationship exist between household size ( $\chi^2$  =19.689,  $p$ = 0.032), daily income ( $\chi^2$ =26.285,  $p$ =0.035), parent's marital status ( $\chi^2$ =8.371,  $p$ =0.039) and wellbeing status of the respondents. This implies that household size and income derived from street hawking by respondents have effect on

their wellbeing. The effect could either be positive or negative. The positive effect could be income realised from hawking activities to boost household purchasing power while the negative effect might be the exposure of children to hazards of street hawking activities particularly large family household size.

**Table 8: Chi-square result of the relationship between the socio-economic characteristics of the children engaged in hawking activities and their wellbeing status**

| Variable              | $\chi^2$ | Df | p-value | Decision        |
|-----------------------|----------|----|---------|-----------------|
| Age                   | 1.638    | 2  | 0.441   | Not significant |
| Sex                   | 1.128    | 1  | 0.288   | Not significant |
| Religion              | 1.279    | 1  | 0.258   | Not significant |
| Education             | 3.746    | 3  | 0.290   | Not significant |
| Parent marital status | 8.371    | 3  | 0.039   | Significant     |
| Household size        | 19.689   | 10 | 0.032   | Significant     |
| Daily Income          | 26.285   | 15 | 0.035   | Significant     |

**Source: Field survey 2017**

**Hypothesis 2**

Table 9 revealed that there is a significant relationship between poverty ( $p$ =0.000), unemployment of parents ( $p$ =0.003) and the wellbeing status of the respondents. This by implication means that the poverty level and unemployment status of the parents were serious and these encouraged street hawking among children. Corroborating

this finding, Raji (2017) noted in his work that majority of the children reported poverty and parents unemployment as the significant factors that propelled child street hawking, while Ekpenyong and Sibiri (2011) assert that street hawking by children is a reflection of poverty situation of urban communities

**Table 9: Result of Chi-square test of relationship between factors influencing street hawking of Agricultural products and the wellbeing of the respondents**

| Variable              | P-value | Remarks         |
|-----------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Poverty               | 0.000** | Significant     |
| Unemployment (parent) | 0.003** | Significant     |
| Low/No Education      | 0.109   | Not significant |
| Street Life           | 0.104   | Not significant |
| Total wellbeing       |         |                 |

**Source: Field survey 2017** \*\*significant at less than 5% ( $P < 0.005$ )

### 3.12.

#### Conclusions and recommendations

Children street hawking of agricultural products were influenced by parents' poverty situation and unemployment condition. This practice which involved children of between 14 and 17 years old, in which majority were females resulted in poor wellbeing of the children that were involved. This actually called for concerted efforts by all concern organisations and groups to discourage Child Street

hawking irrespective of the benefits derived and reason(s) for engaging in the practice. Sustainable poverty alleviation and entrepreneurship skill acquisition programmes should be put in place to help the parents to cater for their children and wards, while available laws against child labour should be enforced to discourage street hawking among children and save them from risks associated with children street hawking in Nigeria.

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