Human Trafficking and Transnational Organized Crime: Implications for Security in Nigeria

Abosede Omowumi Babatunde

Trafficking in persons remains rampant in many parts of the world, including Africa, despite regional and global efforts to combat and eradicate this scourge. In Africa, Nigerians constitute the largest number of victims in the organized African human trafficking networks. This paper examines human trafficking as a form of transnational organized crime and its implications for security in Nigeria. Drawing on extant literature, the study observes that the Nigerian government has not effectively tackled the menace of human trafficking as a result of its failure to address structural factors such as poverty, youth unemployment, corruption, gender discrimination, and the absence of strong interlocking national, regional, and international strategies rooted in global cooperation.

INTRODUCTION

This paper examines human trafficking as a form of transnational organized crime. From a feminist perspective it analyses the major causes, consequences, and challenges in combating the trafficking of women and children in Nigeria. It also examines the implications of human trafficking for the security of the state and people who are victims of human trafficking networks. What efforts has the Nigerian government made to combat trafficking in women and children? How effective are such efforts and what are the challenges encountered in this fight? The study argues that the Nigerian government has not effectively tackled the challenges of human trafficking which continue to undermine the security of the victims and the nation.

PEACE RESEARCH
The Canadian Journal of Peace and Conflict Studies
Volume 46, Number 1 (2014): 61-84
©2014 Peace Research