



Socio–demographic Variables and Effects on Family Life in Obudu Urban, Cross River State, Nigeria

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Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration between all authors mentioned above. Author JAA designed the study, performed the statistical analysis, wrote the protocol and wrote the first draft of the manuscript. Author IAB managed the analyses of the study. Author IIO managed the literature searches. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined Socio – demographic variables and effects on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria. The specific objectives were to determine the extent to which income, employment, and educational status affect family life. These were translated into three (3) null hypotheses of the study. Data were generated from a 16 items questionnaire. Survey research design was adopted for the study with 250 respondents randomly selected within Obudu urban. Data generated were presented in tables using percentage and tested using chi – square statistical method. The findings of the study indicated that; income, employment, and educational statuses affect family life. The study recommended among others that government should create a favourable business atmosphere that will result in employment creation. Income earning opportunities should be promoted to improve the socio – economic wellbeing of the family. The people should be encourage to go to school which will help to improve their educational status and as well as enable them acquire administrative/business skills. The study concluded that Socio – demographic variables has significant effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Demographic data are very essential in determining the quality of life of both the individual and the family. They are widely used in public opinion pooling and in survey research. Demographic variables or data are used to identify the study of quantifiable subsets with a given population which characterized that population at a specific point in time [1]. Demographic variables include; age, gender/sex, marital status, ethnicity, employment status, place of residence, occupational status, income, educational status, date of birth, among others. Changes in family structure is one of the most significant fact that affects family life and relationships. It determines or measures a person's work experience and of an individual's or family's economic and social position in relation to others, based on income, education and occupation [2].

In sociology, the term socio-demographic variables refer to a group defined by its demographic characteristics. It refers to a combination of social and demographic factors and examine the life around individuals' characteristics such as age, gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, income, marital status, birth rate, death rate, average size of family, heritage, education, medical history [3]. Studies have revealed that there is positive relationship between income and family life. Families with a higher income have higher quality of life than lower income families [4].

It has also been observed that children from high educational background perform well in schools than children from low or no educational background. This is because educated parents know the importance of education and are more committed to their children's educational needs than uneducated parents [5]. Also low socio – economic variables affect different people's choice of residential building, accommodation and location of house ownership. The role played by family demographic characteristics are significant or vital to education of the children. Family characteristics influenced the academic, social and emotional development of children and determine parent's decision to involve in their children's learning [6].

Income, education, and occupational status are often used as indicators of socio – economic

status and as separate variables in analyzing and evaluating their unique, additive contributions to family characteristics and human development. In some cases, early education can be used as a predictor of later income and work success [7]. This study therefore seek to investigate the socio – demographic variables and effects on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria.

1.1 Statement of the Problem

Socio – demographic variables such as parental employment, educational level of parents and income tend to have significant effect on the family. The impact of job loss and small income often create depression and affects children' development. Being jobless because of low educational status or unemployment may lead to emotional setback in family life. Also parental unemployment resulting from poor educational and economic status can result in negative parental practices like; late night, drunkenness and broken homes.

Education is one of the most widely used indicators of socio – economic status and is considered by many to be the canonical element of socio – economic status because of its influence on income and occupation. Where majority of the people are from educationally disadvantaged area there is tendency that this will in turn have severe consequences on the family. This is because educational status is the determinant of the type of job one has, placement and the income attached to the job. Thus, people at the lowest class level remain poor, which has significant effect on the family.

It is based on the above premises that this study seek to investigate the socio – demographic variables and effects on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria.

1.2 Objective of the Study

The main objective of this study is to examine socio – demographic variables and effects on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State. The specific objectives were as follows:

- i. To determine whether income of the people have effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria.

- ii. To ascertain whether the employment status of the people have significant effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria.
- iii. To determine whether educational status of the people have effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State.

1.3 Research Questions

The following research questions were framed for the purpose of this study.

- i. Does income of the people have effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria?
- ii. How does employment status of the people have significant effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria?
- iii. To what extent does educational status of the people have effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State?

1.4 Research Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were formulated for the study.

- i. Income of the people does not relate with family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria.
- ii. Employment status of the people does not significantly relate with family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria.
- iii. Educational status of the people does not have significant effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State.

1.5 Conceptual Analysis

This study lay claims to Economic theory of the family. Economic theory is based on the assumption that the success of the family is a function of human capital, where households serve as singular unit to maximize collective utility. Thus, utility comes from commodities like children that are produced by investments in market activity and household services. In this regard, children's success is dependent on the economic resources and equivalent services that parents provide. Children who spend most of their childhoods in a two-parent family (biological or stepfamily) will have the highest attainments because two parental figures are present to provide complementary resources or income to sustain the family. A two-parent family will

provide efficient system for maximizing utility and, by extension, the human capital of children [8].

Economists have studied the role that employment, income, welfare reforms play in the family. It has been discovered that parental unemployment affect the child wellbeing in various ways. It will result in low self – esteem, anxiety and stress, improper nutrition values couple with physical ill-health [9]. Parents from poor educational background, with low income and employment status are often more likely to suffer stress, unable to meet the needs of the family – proper nutrition, good education, good housing and as well as suffer family neglect [10].

Parental unemployment result in depression, economic hardship, lack of nurturing which will led to greater social and emotional problem among the children. The children's educational outcome may be altered as a result of psychological trauma of the child of the unemployed parents. In the other hand socio – economic status of the family is crucial for development. Parent with low socio – economic status find it difficult to provide the necessary incentive for the child's development. Items like; books, school bags, uniform, payment of school fees may not be affordable. These material or items which supposed to enrich sensory perception will be lacking from parents of low income families [11].

The influence of educational status of parents on the academic performance of children cannot be overemphasized. Children from high parental educational background perform well in school than children from low or no educational background because educated parents know the importance of education and will always buy books and other academic paraphernalia which will help boost the child academic performance [12].

Indices of family socioeconomic status, including parent education, revealed that the quality of family interactions and child behaviour could be shape by late adolescence, educational achievement and aspirations for future educational and occupational success [13].

From the broader social learning models, family structural variables such as parental education and income affect the level of actual interactions within the family and the child's consequent behaviour. This is because parents exert

substantial influence on their children's behaviour. Thus, children exposed to more rejecting and aggressive parenting contexts, as well as inter parental conflict, display greater aggression and the effects between negative parenting and child aggression are bi-directional. Presumably, children learn aggressive problem-solving styles as a result of repeated exposure to such models, and in turn parents use more power assertive techniques to manage the child's behaviour [14].

Parental education, class or income is applied as a proxy for family background, under the assumption that they are more or less interchangeable indicators of it. However, they can measure different aspects of family background while the level of education provides an estimate for cognitive skills and non-cognitive traits, occupational class one of social status, and income one of economic and material resources [11].

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1 Study Design

The study adopted a survey research design. The study employs questionnaire in order to determine the opinion of the sampled population to isolate the interrelation of the variables.

2.2 Setting

Obudu urban is a sub region or capital of Obudu local government area in Cross River State, Nigeria. Obudu Local Government Area is bordered to the North by Vandeikya Local Government Area of Benue State, to the East by Obanlikwu local government, and to the South and West by Boki and Bekwara local governments respectively.

Obudu urban is downstream from the Obudu Dam, which has caused acute scarcity of drinking water in the dry season, due to dam conservation activities. The town is about 17 kilometers away from Bebi Air strip and is a 6hour drive from Calabar, the capital of Cross River State [15]. With the advent of British Colonialism, the former six Obudu clans were formally integrated into the then Ogoja province of the Eastern Region of Nigeria. After Nigeria's independence in 1960 and the local government review commission in 1976, Obudu became an autonomous local government council. In 1999 the local government was declared a sub urban

because of the socio economic activities of the area. It is one of the eighteenth local government areas of Cross River State [16]. The Local Government has ten wards and they are as follows:-

1. Obudu urban 1
2. Obudu urban 11
3. Alege/Ubang
4. Angiaba/ Begiaka
5. Begianding
6. Ipong
7. Ukpe
8. Utugwang Central
9. Utugwang North
10. Utugwang South

This study was therefore carried out within Obudu urban wards 1 and 2 of the Local government.

2.3 Population and Sampling Procedure

The population of the study comprises of married men and women between the ages of 20 – 60 years of age. It is expected that only married men and women should be involved in the study as unmarried men/ women will not be well informed about the study variables and as well as respond appropriately to the study questions.

Table 1. the communities in Obudu urban ward 1 and 2

S/N	Name of the community
Ward	Obudu urban 1
01	Atiekpe,
02	Bebuabong,
03	Abonkib
04	Bebuagam
05	Bebuawhan
	Obudu urban 2
06	Ukwel – Obudu
07	Okambi
08	Ikwomkwu

Source: questionnaire

The two wards are the most populous units of the Local Government, because of Federal College of Education (F.C.E. Obudu) and other commercial activities located within the area. Although there are no census that specify the population of each ward, the 2018 National Population commission projection figure, put the population of Obudu local government area at 192,444 [17]. The eight communities in Obudu urban 1 and 2 were identified for the study. They are presented in Table 1.

Purposive sampling technique was adopted to select the communities or units while simple random sampling technique was used in selecting the respondents. Pieces of papers were written YES or NO and folded and placed in a container and the respondents were asked to pick. Those who picked YES were used for the study, while those who pick NO were not involved in the study.

Table 2. Actual sample

S/N	Name of the community	Sample
Ward	Obudu urban 1	
01	Atiekpe,	
02	Bebuabong,	X
03	Abonkib	
04	Bebuagam	X
05	Bebuawhan	X
	Obudu urban 2	
06	Ukwel – Obudu	
07	Okambi	X
08	Ikwomkwu	X

Source:questionnaire

Table 3. Representative sample

S/N	Name of the community	Sample
Ward	Obudu urban 1	
02	Bebuabong,	X
04	Bebuagam	X
05	Bebuawhan	X
	Obudu urban 2	
07	Okambi	X
08	Ikwomkwu	X
Total	No. of Communities selected	5

Source: questionnaire

Step 1: Determine average population of each of the units to be about = 1,800

Step 2: determine total population of the five units to be 1,800 x 5 = 9,000

Step 3: Estimate the sample population of the five units to 250 (50 x5) = 250

Step 4: Estimate the percentage of the sample = 250/9000 x 100 = 2.77 or 3%

Step 5: Select a sample to obtain size. Having determine the 3% of the population to be 250 respondents, the researchers went ahead to select the respondents in order to obtain the sample for the study. This was achieve through random sampling from the five communities in the Table 3.

2.4 Instrument for the Study

Data were collected using a 16 – items questionnaire written in English Language. Three

assistants who can speak and communicate in Bette language (common dialect use by the people) were recruited to assist respondents who cannot communicate to translate the terms that could not be understood. The questionnaire was divided into two major sections. Section A contained the socio-demographic characteristics of respondents, while section B contained questions to assess the variables under investigation. Test items in section B of the questionnaire were further grouped into three principal areas of the study; income of the people, employment status of the people and educational status of the people.

The validity of the instrument was established using face and content validity. Face validity was determined using content validity ratio (CVR) were;

$$CVR = \frac{ne - N/2}{N/2}$$

ne = number of experts or judges that says items are good N = Total number of the judges

Therefore seven (7) judges says the items were good out of nine (9)

$$= \frac{7 - 9/2}{9/2} = 0.6$$

A pilot-test was conducted in Ogoja urban using participants who had similar characteristics with the study participants. The reliability of the instrument was determined using Cronbach alpha. That yielded a co efficient of 0.94.

2.5 Data Collection

Data were collected over a period of one month by the first author and three research assistants using the questionnaire. Research assistants were recruited and trained for one week, and the first author and research assistants contacted respondents through home visits at prearranged time; revisits were made where necessary in order to meet with the respondents. Briefing on the study aims and objectives was done prior to the respondents completing the questionnaire and signing the consent forms.

2.6 Data Analysis

The data collected from the instrument were summarized and analysed using percentage and

presented in tables for the purpose of clarity. Chi – square statistical tool was used to test and analyzed the data at 0.05 level of significance. The essence of this test was to determine whether there was significant relationship between the variables under investigation.

3. RESULTS

3.1 Demographic Data

Demographic data of the respondents were presented in tables below. Table one, shows that a total of 250 respondents participated in the study. They were more female respondents (150 = 60%) than the male (100 = 40%).

The age distribution of respondents was presented in Table 4. 15 (6%) respondents were between the age range 20 – 25 years, 30 (12%) respondents were in the age bracket 26 – 30 years; 20 (8%) respondents were in the age bracket 31 – 35 years; 40 (16%) respondents, were in the age bracket 36 – 40 years; 50 (20%) respondents were in the age bracket 41 – 45 years; 40 (16%) respondents each were in the age bracket 46 – 50 years; and 51 – 55 years respectively; 10 (4%) respondents were in the age bracket 56 – 60 years; and 5 (2%) respondents were in the age bracket 60 years and above.

Table 5 shows the employment status. The data revealed that 40 (16%) respondents were senior civil servants, 50 (20%) were senior Business men, 70 (28%) were middle civil servants/ Businessmen/ farmers and 90 (36%) respondents were average civil / business/ farmers.

The educational status of respondents was presented in Table 6. The data revealed that 13 (5.2%) respondents had no formal education; 58 (23.2%) were primary school certificate holders; 52 (20.8%) respondents were SSSC (Senior Secondary School certificate); and 53 (21.2%) respondents were NCE/OND holders and 74 (29.6%) have B.Sc. and above. Respondents with SSCE/ NCE/ OND dominated in the study.

Hypothesis one

Ho: Income of the people does not relate with family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria.

H₁: Income of the people relate with family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria

Question 8. Does your income relate with your family life? was used to test the hypothesis at 0.05 level of significance.

$$\text{To obtain the } E = \frac{CT \times RT}{GT}$$

Where CT = column total,
RT = row total and
GT = grand total
(C – 1)(R – 1)
(2 – 1) (2 – 1)
1 1

Level of significance at 0.05 = 3.84

$$\begin{aligned} X^2 &= \frac{(60-72)^2}{72} + \frac{(40-28)^2}{28} + \frac{(120-108)^2}{108} + \frac{(30-42)^2}{42} \\ &= \frac{(-12)^2}{72} + \frac{(12)^2}{28} + \frac{(12)^2}{108} + \frac{(-12)^2}{42} \\ &= 2 + 5.14 + 1.33 + 3.43 \\ &= 11.9 \text{ calculated value} \end{aligned}$$

3.2 Decision Rule of Acceptance or Rejection

When the calculated chi – square (X²) value is greater or equals to critical table value reject the Null hypothesis and accept alternative hypothesis. If the tabulated X² value is greater than the calculated value, accept the null hypothesis and reject the alternative hypothesis. Since the calculated value 11.9 is higher than the table value 3.84, H₀ is therefore rejected and H₁ accepted. This mean that, income of the people relate with family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria.

Hypothesis two

Ho: Employment status of the people does not have significant effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria.

H₁: Employment status of the people have significant effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria.

Question 10: Does your employment status have effect on your family life? was used to test the hypothesis 2 at 0.05 level of significance.

Level of significance at 0.05 = 3.84

$$\begin{aligned} X^2 &= \frac{(70-80)^2}{80} + \frac{(30-20)^2}{20} + \frac{(130-120)^2}{4} + \frac{(20-30)^2}{30} \\ &= 1.25 + 5 + 0.83 + 3.33 \\ &= 10.41 \text{ calculated value} \end{aligned}$$

Since the calculated value 10.41 is higher than the table value 3.84, H₀ is therefore rejected and

H_i accepted. This implies that, Employment status of the people have significant effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria.

Hypothesis three

H_o: Educational status of the people does not have effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State.

H_i: Educational status of the people have effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State.

Question 12: Does your Educational status have effect on your family life? was used to test the hypothesis at 0.05 level of significance.

Level of significance at 0.05 = 3.84

$$\begin{aligned} X^2 &= \frac{(65-80)^2}{80} + \frac{(35-20)^2}{20} + \frac{(135-120)^2}{120} + \frac{(15-30)^2}{30} \\ &= 2.81 + 11.25 + 1.88 + 7.5 \\ &= 23.44 \text{ calculated value} \end{aligned}$$

Since the calculated value 23.44 is higher than the table value 3.84, H_o is therefore rejected and H_i accepted. This implies that Educational status of the people have effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria.

4. DISCUSSION

The aim of this study was to investigate Socio – demographic variables and effects on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria. The specific objectives were to determine the extent

to which income, employment, and educational status affect family life. These were translated into three [18] null hypotheses of the study. Data were generated from a 16 items questionnaire. Survey research design was adopted for the study with 250 respondents randomly selected within the two wards of Obudu urban.

Hypothesis one was to test whether Income of the people relate with family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria. The result of the analysis shows that the calculated X² value 11.9, was higher than the table value 3.84. The Null hypothesis was rejected and the alternate hypothesis accepted. This implies that the income of the people relate with family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State.

Table 4. Gender distribution of respondents

Gender	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Male	100	40
Female	150	60
Total	250	100

Source: questionnaire

Table 5. Age distribution of the respondents

Age in years	Respondents	Percentage (%)
20 – 25	15	6
26 – 30	30	12
31 – 35	20	8
36 – 40	40	16
41 – 45	50	20
46 – 50	40	16
51 - 55	40	16
56 - 60	10	4
60+	5	2
Total	250	100

Source: questionnaire

Table 6. Employment status of respondents

Employment status	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Senior Civil servants	40	16
Senior Businessmen	50	20
Middle civil servants/ Business / farmers	70	28
Average civil servant/ business/ farmers	90	36
Total	250	100

Source: questionnaire

Table 7. Educational status of respondents

Educational status	Respondents	Percentage (%)
No formal education	13	5.2
Primary school certificate	58	23.2
SSCE	52	20.8
NCE/ OND	53	21.2
B.Sc. and above	74	29.6%
Total	250	100

Source: questionnaire

The result of hypothesis one is in line with [17] assertion that Parental income is potentially a very important determinant of children's performance at school. The most basic reason is that rich parents have access to better housing, medical care and better food. In other words, they can afford almost all the basic necessities of life and services that favour children's development and help them perform well at school. While the children from low income family may have difficult time in affording them. They seem condemned from the start to encounter the same dead ends as their parents did.

Studies have also revealed that Family income is an important variable which determines what resources are available to a household. Income has positive effect on children's educational attainment. As income increases, consumer products, which enhance human capital, will become more abundant in the household. The opportunities to purchase and use learning models will be more common. The presence of these items in a home assist parents to encourage and promote education and enhance what is learned in the school. The presence or absence of educational resources due to income will encourage or discourage children's interest in learning [19].

Table 8. Observed (o) and (e) expected frequency table in relation to question 8

Variables	Yes (E)	No (E)	Total
Male	60(72)	40 (28)	100
Female	120 (108)	30 (42)	150
Total	180 (180)	70 (70)	250

Source: questionnaire

Table 9. Observed (O) and (e) expected frequency table in relation to question 10

Variables	Yes (E)	No (E)	Total
Male	70 (80)	30 (20)	100
Female	130 (120)	20 (30)	150
TOTAL	200 (200)	50 (50)	250

Source: questionnaire

Hypothesis two was to test whether Employment status of the people have significant effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria. The result of the analysis revealed that 10.41 calculated X^2 value was higher than the table value 3.84. H_0 was therefore rejected and H_1 accepted. This implies that, Employment status of the people have

significant effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria.

Table 10. Observed (o) and (e) expected frequency table in relation to hypothesis 3

Variables	Yes (E)	No (E)	Total
Male	65 (80)	35 (20)	100
Female	135 (120)	15 (30)	150
TOTAL	200 (200)	50 (50)	250

Source: questionnaire

Studies carried out by Adebile [20] to contextualise and explain the relationships between parental employment patterns and outcomes on the family revealed that, parental employment and unemployment impact upon young people's outcomes in a number of ways, with different mechanisms observed for different outcomes. Young people living in a currently workless household were more likely to have poorer educational outcomes (truancy, leaving school at age 16), and operating through the impact on family socio-economic circumstances (financial capital).

Parents play an important role in shaping the adult lives of their children. They invest their time and money in activities that affect their offspring's well-being. In particular, fathers' and mothers' employment affects both the income coming into the family and the time devoted to children's development.

Hypothesis three was to ascertain whether Educational status of the people have effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria. The result of the analysis revealed that the calculated X^2 value 23.44 was higher than the table value 3.84. H_0 was rejected and H_1 accepted. This implies that Educational status of the people have effect on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State.

The importance of parental education in the family cannot be handled with levity. Parental roles and contributions include; encouragement, support, counselling, appreciation, motivation and provision of conducive environment for the learner both at home and in the school. This is because a child's mental capabilities and motivation is greatly influenced by the nature of the family or home and school into which a child belongs. Therefore well-educated parents with good background are capable of providing sufficiently for the education of their children while their poor counterpart finds it extremely

difficult to do so. This may be due to low income and the nonchalant attitude of some parents towards the education of their children [21].

Studies by NPC [22] also stressed that a child exposed to parents who are model achievement-oriented behavior (e.g., obtaining advanced degrees; reading frequently; encouraging a strong work ethic) and provide achievement-oriented opportunities (e.g., library and museum trips; after-school enrichment programs; educational books and videos) will develop the guiding belief that achievement is to be valued, pursued, and anticipated. This belief will in turn promote successful outcomes across development, including high school graduation, the pursuit of higher learning, and the acquisition of highprestige occupations. However, there are positive relations between parents' levels of education and parents' expectations for their children's success, indicating that more highly educated parents actively encourage their children to develop high expectations of their own.

The findings capture the basic message from related research. On average, higher income, educational and occupational status is associated with greater marital stability and quality. In some cases income, education, and occupational status are sometimes used together as indicators of Socio – Economic Status and also as separate variables in data analyses so that investigators can evaluate their unique contributions to family characteristics and human development. In some cases, earlier education can even be used as a predictor of later income and work success.

5. CONCLUSION

This study was intended to investigate socio – demographic variables and effects on family life in Obudu urban, Cross River State, Nigeria. The various parameter for the study were initiated and literature review carried out to enable the researchers have insight of the research problem. A well prepared questionnaire was printed and 250 copies administered to respondents in Obudu urban for completion. The 250 copies of the questionnaire were collected back and data extracted for testing of hypotheses. The result of the tested hypotheses revealed that there was significant relationship between income, employment and educational status of the people and family life in the area.

It was not possible to address other variables like age, sex, marital status in this study. This is because the study will be too voluminous to comprehend. Thus, the three variables identified - income, employment and educational status constitute the basis of analysis in this study. Also it was not possible to relate the variables to the academic performance of children because of time constraint.

The study therefore concludes that socio – demographic variables such as income, employment and educational status have significant effects on family life in the area. Recommendations were proffer for the identified problems.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations were suggested to provide a solution to the identified problems.

- i. Government should create income generating opportunities in the area to empower the people so as to be more selfsufficient.
- ii. Adequate provision of infrastructural facilities like regular power supply, National open appliance scheme and soft loan to create job opportunities to enable individuals in the area improve themselves.
- iii. Government should improve on educational facilities to enable the less privilege children and parents obtain education.
- iv. Parents should be involved in child literacy by ensuring their wards rehearse what was learned at school.

CONSENT AND ETHICAL APPROVAL

Approval was sought and granted by the community leaders in each of the communities within Obudu urban 1 and 2. The purpose of the study was explained to each respondent and both verbal and written consent were obtained from respondents prior to data collection. Confidentiality was ensured by not asking the respondents to write their names on the questionnaire and completed questionnaires were preserved to prevent unauthorized access by people who are not part of the research team.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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