

UNIVERSITY OF PORT HARCOURT

***CRIMINOLOGY: THE CRIMINOLOGIST'S EYE IN
REOCCURRING CRIME PROBLEMS IN NIGERIA***

An Inaugural Lecture

By

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DEDICATION

This Lecture is dedicated to my father, Architect Douglas
Enyina IwarimieJaja (of blessed memory).

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Vice Chancellor, Sir, I understand that without God on one's side, no one can be positively credited for any thing – let alone for his achievements. I thank God Almighty for His countless mercies in my life. God has made it possible for me to reach the status of a professor, and I want to acknowledge Him, and those individuals whom He has used to make this possible. First and foremost, among such individuals is you, Sir, the Vice Chancellor of our great University of Port Harcourt. Second, is the man who saw the genius in me and recruited me into the service of the department of Sociology, Professor Mark Anikpo, whom I have also called the 'father' of the department. Next is Professor Inya Eteng, a 'guru in Marxist Sociology' whom I late referred to as the 'Grand father' of Sociology. I am grateful to these imminent scholars of Sociology who contributed academically to what I have become today. Now, I acknowledge with happiness in my heart, and express my thanks to a former Vice Chancellor of this University, who granted approval for my recruitment into the service of the University on October 2nd, 1986. I thank you, Sir, Prof. Sylvanus J. S. Cooney. I want to also thank two former Vice Chancellors of this University, Professor Theo Vincent and Professor Don Baridam for the part they played in my life.

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***CRIMINOLOGY: THE CRIMINOLOGIST'S EYE
IN REOCCURRING CRIME PROBLEMS IN NIGERIA***

PREAMBLE

It is my pride and honour to stand before you, Sir, Mr. Vice Chancellor, and members of the University community, as the celebrant, to give the 105th edition of the Inaugural Lecture Series of this citadel Institution of Learning.

My esteemed audience, may I remind you that this inaugural lecture is a great challenge to me and it is the third in the series of inaugural lectures delivered from the Department of Sociology, and the eleventh in the Faculty of Social Sciences. My predecessors in the Department of Sociology, Professor Mark Anikpo lectured on 'Hegemonic Legacies: Issues in the Sociology of Nigeria's Underdevelopment' (ILS No. 16, 1996) and Professor Stephen Ekpenyong talked on 'Diseased Mega Cities: the Centres of Fear' (ILS No. 22, 1999), respectively. Both lectures were profound and fascinating.

Mr. Vice Chancellor, Sir, I was first recruited into this University as a part-time lecturer and, having demonstrated intelligence, hardwork and competence, I was interviewed and absorbed into the Department of Sociology as an Assistant Lecturer. From this first rung of the academic ladder, I rose gradually through the ranks, and was promoted to the rank of Professor of Sociology with effect from May

4th, 2010. I believe that I have acquired a lot of academic experience as a criminologist.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am grateful to the Vice Chancellor for granting me the opportunity to fulfill this task of delivering an inaugural lecture, which is the pride of all new professors. The inaugural lecture is in the area of my specialization – Criminology, and the title of my lecture is ‘Criminology: The Criminologist’s Eye In Re-occurring Crime Problems in Nigeria’, which I earlier thought should have been ‘Criminology: An Eye Opener’. In deed, I am grateful to God for empowering me with strength and knowledge to stand before you today, in God’s glory, to present this inaugural lecture which is considered by me as a bench mark in our profession. I am glad to have been called into the hall of firm of inaugural professors.

The Objective of the Lecture

In the course of this lecture, my intention is to review criminological concepts relevant to the discipline and reveal a comprehensive understanding of theoretical expositions of crime and its related facets, including the victims of crime and the control of crime problems in Nigeria. In this way, various contributions that I have made in the discipline of Criminology will be show-cased.

Above all, you will be reminded of some of the things you already know, or have heard of, and I will be happy to have

celebrated an important personal milestone or event in my academic career. Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished audience, I want to articulate my academic views with simplicity in my explanatory approach.

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Criminology: The Discipline

Criminology has been a sub-discipline of Sociology in Nigeria. The parent discipline of Criminology called Sociology was conceived by Auguste Comte, a French philosopher, who regarded it as the study of the nature, the natural causes and the natural laws of a large human social gathering called society. Its major concern has been the social interactions that go on in groups, organizations, institutions and societies, and which result in different types of behaviour, actions and transactions. Criminology is yet to be conferred with the mantle of a discipline in Nigeria. Since the early 1960s, it has not been regarded as a discipline of its own in Nigeria, but Criminology has been well understood by trained Nigerian criminologists.

Criminology: Its Importance

Criminology as a discipline is unique like all other disciplines. It has value and importance in both theoretical and practical sense. Criminology is related to the social sciences and social system of society. This fact reveals the significance of Criminology as a science. The criminological

imagination reveals the scope of studies on various aspects of crime: its spatial distribution, trends, incidence, types or form – typologies, cause or etiology, consequence, treatment, enforcement of criminal law and management of criminal offenders.

Basically, the importance of Criminology in its theoretical sense is in its potential to investigate crime and to ascertain or determine the cause of crime and disorder. Practically, it determines the factors that impacts on people to commit crime, delinquency and deviance. Besides the determination of the factors of crime-causation, it studies and examines the ways and means of controlling and preventing or eradicating the cause of crime and criminality in the society.

Benefits of Criminology comprise the compilation and availability of crime-data obtained through investigations and research. Verifiable evidence of the incidence of crime and their perpetrators – criminal offenders, and the authenticated facts show that both crime and criminals are normal phenomena in society.

Emile Durkheim (1858-1917), the architect of the notion of the normalcy of crime asserts that crime is both normal and functional in society. He claims that no society is exempt from it and that 'there is ... no phenomenon that presents more indisputably all the symptoms of normality, since it appears closely connected with the conditions of all collective life' (Durkheim, 1964:66).

The Need for Law Enforcement

Investigations and research have shown that crime is the product of the existence of norms and criminal law. No society is without criminals or the 'bad eggs'. The presence of crime and criminals as revealed in investigational reports and research attest to the fact that without crimes and criminals, there would be no need for law enforcement by the police, courts and corrections – prisons. Therefore, law enforcement is needed for the protection and security of life and property, and the preservation of the value system of the society.

Law and Order

Law is a prescription rule of human actions or conduct. It is the obligatory rules expressing the normative character of the society which all citizens must obey in order to avoid sanctions or punishment on themselves. Therefore, law is a group of rules governing interaction - a set of regulations governing the relationships between citizens, and between citizens and the state. Without law, order will not exist in society or any part of it.

Order is a state or condition of an organized society where there is decorum, peace and human interaction and activities are carried out in a way acceptable to the society. A society where ethics is well established and adhered to,

encourages the smooth operations of societal affairs and institutions. A society without order experiences increasing crime problems. Law is therefore enforced to maintain order.

Law and order is an umbrella term which implies a strict law enforcement effort by the criminal justice system, especially to deter offenders with stricter criminal penalties such as longer terms of imprisonment, mandatory sentencing and capital punishment or the death penalty.

Criminology affirms that law and order is important to all societies. Investigations and research on law and order have revealed the following:

- (i) Without law and order, there would be no stability and sustainable development in any society whether capitalist or communist. Law and order provides the primacy for legitimate governance and the security of lives and property of the citizens. The government must prevent dissent and anarchy in order to secure citizens' lives and property. Since crime cannot be eradicated, every government must make frantic effort to reduce the level of crime in every season or period when crime rate is on the increase.
- (ii) Crimes like murder, rape, assault, burglary, theft or arson are heinous crimes in society but crimes like graft, under-invoicing, black-mail, nepotism, misuse of legitimate power, adulteration of food, drinks or

drugs are criminal and equally harmful to society and should carry even more penalties than other crimes. These other crimes are not easily recognized by the public, especially by average persons in the society. They are the crimes that are mostly committed by the 'upper-bracket person' which are simply referred as 'vicious commercial malpractices' (Bhatti, 2009:1-2).

- (iii) Crime exists in all societies because of the very presence of 'man's exploitation by man', and the inevitability of all forms of inequalities, especially economic and political inequalities, and anomalies such as family disorganization, unemployment, marginalization, deprivations and poverty. In fact theoretical studies in Criminology have revealed the modus essenti and the modus operandi of crimes, and the techniques and methods the law enforcement agencies, (especially the police, courts and corrections) can adopt to handle the problems of crime in order to restore law and order.

There is need for new laws to be formulated to deal with crime problems. The suggestion made is that the laws should be rational and humane regarding the inflicting of punishment on the criminal offender for rehabilitation and reformation purposes. Those laws that could cause the criminal offender to become hardened criminals, particularly

in respect of crimes that are not dangerous should be discouraged or amended.

Crime Reduction and Control

The practical value and importance of Criminology is in crime control. Criminal records of suspects and convicted criminal offenders are valuable source for research. Both qualitative and quantitative data have been used in descriptive and empirical studies respectively. Criminological studies have revealed who the crime perpetrators are; their profiles and the nature of their criminal acts, as well as how they have been treated and handled by the criminal justice system. Studies in Criminology usually conclude with how the problem of crime can be reduced or controlled and how the criminal and the victim can be treated or rehabilitated. This is why Edwin Sutherland said that 'Criminology is concerned with the immediate application of knowledge to the programmes of social control of crime' (quoted in Bhatti, 2009:2). What Sutherland means is that Criminology, in its practical application, is important in attempting to eliminate crime; and finding possible solutions to reduce or control crime directly or indirectly in society. Criminology is also useful in determining criminal-psychology – how the criminal thinks before involving himself or herself in criminal acts. Criminological information is helpful in assessing the

criminal's attitudes and opinions, and in determining the factors responsible for various criminal acts in society.

Crime Causation

Mr. Vice Chancellor, Sir, it is not difficult for a criminologist to determine how a particular crime is generated in our society. Every criminal act has a pointer as to how it generated. Criminologists have a store of criminological knowledge which helps them to correlate or associate specific crimes with specific sets of circumstances in order to determine their origin or cause(s). For instance, in our study, we (Iwarimie-Jaja, 1999) specifically examined armed robbery in which we opined that

No individual gets up one day and decides to rob a bank, or a residence, armed with a gun. This is because armed robbery is a high level criminal act which criminals must graduate in to commit either individually or in gang context (Iwarimie-Jaja, 1999:66).

The study examined the motivation for the unemployed / employed to commit armed robbery and concluded that previous criminal experiences / associations are the determining factor for a person to commit high level crimes such as armed robbery. In that study, 'Previous Criminal Association' was defined as the

Involvement in a criminal subculture through interactions, intimacy or attachments with friends

and relations who are criminals, or who belong to criminal organization (Iwarimie-Jaja, 1999:59).

Such previous criminal associations are determined through prison records as well as the number of criminal inmates who responded to questionnaire items that they had previous criminal engagements, relations and attachments with criminal gangs (Iwarimie-Jaja, 1999).

Criminal Types

Indeed, Criminology is helpful in classifying criminal types. Such criminal types are arranged in typologies. The typologies show the correlation of criminals in terms of their personal traits like age, sex, education, family background, physical environs, psychological and philosophical characteristics. Thus, for example, criminological studies have revealed that criminals with low I.Q levels are usually not engaged in white-collar crimes (Reid, 1982).

Career Creation

Criminology is also important in career-creation. There are various careers in Criminology. A person who has a requisite qualification in Criminology or criminal justice can make a career from it depending on their choice of interests. Some available job choices are in the following career areas:

(i) Teaching in Tertiary Institutions: Colleges of Education, Polytechnics and Universities.

- (ii) Law Enforcement and Investigative Agencies: The Police, the State Security Service, Customs, Drug Law Enforcement Agency, Immigration Services, Internal Revenue Service, Environmental Protection Agency, the Courts (as Clerks, Administrators, Probation Officer, etc.); Department of Corrections (e.g. prisons and remand homes).
- (iii) Private Security: Private security services in schools and universities, industries and corporations.
- (iv) Criminalistics: Services of the criminalistic personnel in government crime investigation laboratories.
- (v) Welfare Agencies: Services of the Children and Youth Services, especially in juvenile courts; community organizations, Remand Homes, Approved Schools, Family Welfare Agency and Probation Departments.
- (vi) Government: Aids and advisers to government officials.

Management of Offenders

Mr. Vice Chancellor, Sir, Criminology information is not only practically important in crime control, prevention and reduction, but it is very relevant and useful in suggesting and devising techniques, tools or measures for making reforms in policies, programmes and law regarding treatment and

management of criminal offenders. When laws and policies or programmes are established, they help to effectively keep a check on specific criminal acts and criminals.

CRIMINOLOGY: DEFINITIONS AND MEANING

What is Criminology?

Criminology is 'the body of knowledge that deals with crime in society' (Igbo, 1999:1); a 'social-scientific study of crime, criminals, victims and the social and legal responses to them' (Odekunle, 2006:2). It is 'the scientific study of the totality of the phenomenon of crime and its related facets such as the effects of the application of criminal law, treatment and management of criminal offenders' (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2006a:2; 2010:2).

In essence, Criminology is the discipline that explains and finds solutions to the problems of crime, the criminal and the victims of crime, and investigates the issues arising from law enforcement due to reactions of the criminal justice system to crime and delinquency.

As a scientific study, Criminology uses and applies scientific techniques and methods in a systematic way to collect information, evidence or data for proper determination that a crime has taken place and for the possibility to prosecute the crime suspect or offender. Sampling is conducted using different applicable methods (e.g. simple random sample and stratified random sample)

and hypothetical assumptions called hypotheses are tested using different test methods (e.g. Chi-square, correlation coefficient, regression analysis or multiple regression) in order to explain scientifically, the concept of crime and its correlates.

The implication is that Criminology is a science that reflects hypothetic, deductive, and experimental statements regarding the concept of crime as a social problem and the reactions by society and the government. The methodology for inquiry include: the techniques, rules and methods for studying, the phenomenon of crime and its correlates and facets. The mode of social inquiry include: the positivism approach, the constructionist approach, the phenomenological and critical approaches. Observable phenomena are subjected to theory testing, logic and variable analysis. Information as qualitative and quantitative data are empirically analysed. Specific micro-theories derived from macro-theories (paradigms or perspectives) shape criminology as a body of knowledge.

The Phenomenon of Crime

In fact, the totality of the phenomenon of crime refers to the concept of crime and all that constitutes crime or go into qualifying and quantifying an act to be a crime or criminal. Thus, crime includes the act, itself and other factors, such as the criminal and the victim. Also, when criminologists look

at crime, they see many factors and forces (e.g. etiology of crime, the origins of crime, crime prevention, and control, the dimensions of crime, the persistence of crime, the prevalence of crime, the trends of crime, the definitions of the acts which criminal law defines and labels as crime, the responses to the suppression of crime by criminal justice agencies, the consequences of crime and many more).

Facets of Crime

The facets of crime may include the effects of criminal law, the criminalization process, the treatment and punishment or imprisonment, the management of the offender and the victim of crimes through rehabilitation and therapeutic counseling and other correctional measures. The facets of crime may also include juvenile delinquency, gang behaviour, restorative justice of crime, recidivism, victimizations and even causative factors such as the social environment, anomie and imbalances, poverty, unemployment, economic recession, education, level of intelligence, socialization, culture and subculture, conflicts, psychological, biological and bio-chemical factors (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2010:3-7).

THE CRIMINOLOGIST'S EYE

What is the Criminologist's Eye?

The criminologist's eye sees crime from a perspective different from that of other social scientists. It probes deeper levels and depths of crime and identifies the causes and consequences of the criminal event. The criminologist's eye looks at crime, and sees it as a social event – an event that carries different meaning as regards the offender, the victim and the agents of criminal justice system. It must be understood that different interest groups have different interpretations of crime, and the solutions to the crime problem. What is implied here is that crime incidence has different meanings to the criminologist who studies it, and to other interest-groups – the police officer who investigates it, and the victim who suffers from the effects of the crime, the public, that may or may not be directly affected by, or interested in the crime, and even the correction officers, the judges, the medical experts, etc. The criminologist's eye is a tool or a set of perspectives used for deeper understanding of crime.

What is Crime?

Crime is the subject matter of Criminology. Two basic definitions of crime that have been accepted by Nigerian criminologists are derived from a social and legal definitions or constructs. A social construction of crime states that crime is behaviour or conduct that violates societal norms

and values. Acts that violate natural law are also regarded as natural crimes. Often, such acts are described as deviant behaviour or anti-social conducts. Indeed, they violate generally-accepted set of rules (Inciardi, 2002). A legal definition of crime states that crime is an act, or omission, in violation of criminal law (Tappan, 1960). The legal definition of crime avoids the consequences that an individual or group assertions impose in a real life situation, and provides the scientific and precise character required in determining what crime is and who should be held liable for crime (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2010:38). Criminal law is the basis for legal construction of crime. It places emphasis on legal justifications and defences, which may excuse an offender from criminal liability. It also, expresses the requirement for criminal intent or mens rea (the mental element) for establishing culpability. Crime is a crime only when this critical factor is determined. However, for culpability, criminal law holds that mental responsibility for the act must include four states of mind: purposive, knowledge, recklessness and negligence. Indeed, criminal law defines which act (or conduct) is a crime that must be sanctioned by the state as a felony, misdemeanour or simple offence. In this sense, an act or omission is not a crime if it is not proscribed by law and if there is no punishment (*nullum crimen sine poena*) prescribed for such an act or omission. In the same vein, if there is no punishment prescribed by law (*nulla poena sine lege*) for the act or omission, the act or omission cannot be

culpable and cannot be regarded as crime (Reid, 1982:14). We shall use the criminologist's eye or the following set of perspectives to observe, analyze and make reference about crime.

The Social Context of Crime Perspective

Crime is a social event that does not exist or take place in a vacuum. Crime takes place in a social environment which is replete with other forms of anomalies such as unemployment, poverty, socio-economic and political inequalities, discrimination, drug and alcohol abuse, the disintegrating family, pervasive family violence, inadequate socialization practices, and the breakdown of traditional social institutions. Crime occurs in the context of social interaction where individuals have fundamental responsibility to choose either criminal behaviour or law-abiding behaviour.

The Criminal Event Perspective

A crime is interpreted in the context of a criminal event based on the situation in which it occurred. Every criminal event is unique and may be subject to different interpretations because every crime has a set of primary and secondary causes and consequences. Every crime has participants and every criminal event consists of the criminal offender(s), the victim(s), the object of crime, the public and the state authorities. The criminal(s) and the victim(s) are the direct participants, while the public, the witnesses and

the state authorities or the criminal justice officials – the police officers, the judges and the prisons officials - are the indirect participants. However, in some situational contexts, the public may be the victim; especially when public rights are violated or when public properties are involved.

Studies on crime analyses of criminal events have revealed the following facts:

- (i) A criminal event depends on when, where and the circumstance in which the crime takes place.
- (ii) Criminals make various decisions prior to, and when and after committing a crime. When such decisions are repeated over time and eventually, they become regularized, they are called crime template.
- (iii) Crime is committed when there is a triggering event, and when a target or victim fits within a crime template.
- (iv) Success in a criminal activity reinforces the experience, skills and existing crime template.
- (v) The location of crime is not limited to one place but comprises various activity nodes, such as fuel stations, homes, workplace, school, shops, market, entertainment places (e.g. club houses), neighbourhoods and between these activity nodes.
- (vi) Crime takes place where people associate and interact in a familiar environment (e.g. recreation centres). In such activity nodes, victims and criminal offenders move freely. Crime occurs at the nodes where the

- victim and criminal offender activity space intersect, and are conducive.
- (vii) Crime may be located in a general activity node or along the path-way, between or within general activity nodes and must fit the crime template. Stationary crime targets (e.g. residences and businesses fall within or along general activity nodes). In other words, the victim and criminal offenders' activities must cross each other in the environmental space and time, for crime to occur. The crime target must be located and found suitable and within a crime template.
 - (viii) In our social environment, different types of crime exist, and individuals and targets are victims of different types of crime.
 - (ix) Criminals would cluster where crime targets are concentrated (e.g. commercial business centers – motor parks, banks, departmental stores, hotels, and petrol stations). Where commercial business activities are on-going, it is easy for criminals to commit crimes – robbery, fraud, and pick-pocketing, etc..
 - (x) Crime hot-spots are places with sets of activities that form or constitute crime 'generators' and crime 'attractors'. Crime generators are specific nodal areas that attract large concentration of people, among whom are criminals who may not be motivated by any particular criminal act they may eventually commit.

Examples of such places include shopping centres, entertainment centres, sports stadia and religious and political conventions. Crime attractors are specific areas or enclaves such as rural villages, urban towns and cities' neighbourhoods where there are criminal opportunity structures (e.g. buying and selling markets or large shopping malls, prostitution strolls or brothels) that attract intending criminals to commit crimes such as theft, robbery and prostitution.

The Decision-making Perspective

Crime means different things to the criminal offender. A crime expresses motives. The criminologist (e.g. police investigators, the forensic expert, etc.) must look for the motive in the criminal act. Each time, there is supporting clue or evidence to prove the motive behind the criminal act. The criminal expresses felt experiences in the decisions that warrant the criminal act. Before a criminal act takes place, the criminal makes certain decisions, based on the specific crime; that is, the criminal must decide on:

- (i) Who or what is the target and how much is it worth?
What are the risks involved?
- (ii) The benefit to be derived from carrying out the criminal act or the need for carrying out the criminal act.
- (iii) The opportunities available to make the criminal act successful.

- (iv) The absence of a guardian or visible target hardening. The presence of target hardening is reflected in the decision to avoid the target or to increase the efforts to be made in order to commit the crime without detection or being caught.
- (v) the type of weapon, charms and number of criminal persons in the gang to go for the criminal operations.
- (vi) the need for collaborators / informants – ‘insiders’: employees, neighbours, friends, relations, and members of the criminal justice system, especially the police.
- (vii) In making decisions, before the criminal act, while executing the criminal act and after committing the criminal act, the criminal makes projections – how to deal with victims, the police, the public, the marketing of stolen items, etc.

The Crime Event Decision Perspective

Crime is more likely to be committed in the circumstance where there is the absence of visual cues of control, because the risk is minimally observable and the chances of success are great. Therefore, every crime event has motives, purposes and benefits to the criminal offender. Crimes differ from one another and, therefore, the factors weighed by criminal offenders in terms of influencing the decision to commit any criminal act differ according to its nature, and choices made.

As earlier identified in this inaugural lecture, Mr. Vice Chancellor, Sir, a criminal event is a reflection of the social environment. People commit crime because they have needs and desires and beliefs about how they can fulfill their aspirational needs and desires. In this sense, criminal behaviour has a purposive character. It is a rational, and deliberate choice that satisfies and benefits the criminal offender.

In contemplating to commit crime, the criminal makes an intelligent/deliberate decision to pre-empt the risk or cost and benefit that are involved. The criminal rationalizes different decisions and selects the most credible means to achieve success in the criminal act. The criminal must deliberate on the uncertainties based on the time pressure and his acquired skills and expertise. Under these conditions, the decisions reached must be satisfactory before action can be taken within a given time to commit the criminal act.

It is important to note that, sometimes, preparatory decision-making may be faulty due to insufficient skills, inexperience, lack of intelligence, mistakes, ignorance, rash behaviour, and drug or alcohol influence.

The Situational Crime Event Perspective

Crime events take place when there are favourable and conducive situational factors that encourage action, and promote success. Situational factors that promotes criminal

activities are criminogenic. The immediate environment can precipitate criminal responses, because there are several situational cues that prompt individuals to take vital decisions and act effectively. For example, prompts such as the availability of guns or weapons may trigger an individual to commit murder or robbery. Also, the pressure from a criminal gang or the frustration from being unemployed and poor can trigger and push an individual to commit crime. Environmental signs may entice a criminal to commit crime. For example, unboarded or unattended broken windows may alert a criminal that it is an appropriate time or a free invitation to commit crime.

THE OFFENDERS' PERSPECTIVE

Criminological studies have revealed that there is no group of persons prone to crime. However, different individuals, or persons, have the propensity to commit crime based on different circumstances or situations they face in social life. Statistical evidence has shown that anyone could become a criminal, or act criminally. Regardless of whether they are employed, unemployed or rich, people commit crimes. However, studies have shown that the unemployed have the tendency to commit crime more than the employed do. Studies have also found that young adults commit more

violent crimes than older adults and men commit more crimes than women. Studies have shown that indicators of criminality is often revealed when unemployment, poverty, age, sex, frustration are associated or correlated with crime (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c).

Criminal Profile

Criminological studies have provided a convenient classification of offenders to express how the offender behaves or reacts to crime-promising-situations or conditions, and what pushes them to act towards committing crimes. In the studies by Alemika (1994) and Iwarimie-Jaja (2010) different criminal types are explained. These include (for example) the legalistic offender, the moralistic offender, and the psychopathic offender. Based on the offenders classification or typology, criminologists develop their criminal profiles.

The profile for a criminal is not different from that of a non-criminal except in the way the criminal commits crime and the different type of crime involved. For example, in a criminal homicide case, a murderer kills a fellow human being with malice, afore-thought and without any legal excuse or justification, but serial killers commit grisly murders and tenaciously conceal their murderous predatory act. They have a front or cover such as a recognized job and are known in their communities as a member of the

community vigilante group or as an active church member. They begin their murderous foray by killing individuals who are their neighbours, family members, friends and colleagues and later, strangers. They kill three or more people in separate criminal events called serial murder. Serial killers are not legally insane or medically psychotic. They merely act cruel to their victims.

Criminologists have recognized the typology of the serial killer developed by Holmes and Deburger (1985). It includes: the visionary serial killers, comfort serial killers, and the hedonistic serial killers.

- (i) Visionary serial killers: This type of serial killers are motivated to murder people by the voices they hear and the visions they see.
- (ii) Comfort serial killers: The motivation that forms their compulsion to murder are monetary and material gains.
- (iii) Hedonistic serial killers: Serial killers of this type, kill because of the psychological pleasure and enjoyment derived from killing others.

These typologies have been informed by the offender motivation, the selection of victims, the expected benefits or gains and the method applied in the killing. However, Fox and Levin (1996) have reconstructed the above typology based on motivation, mission-oriented task and expedience –

directed task which has resulted in the following taxonomy/typology:

- (i) Thrill-motivated killers consist of the sexual sadist and the dominance killer who kill for psychological pleasure.
- (ii) Mission-oriented killers consist of killers who kill because they have reformist instinct and have visionary hearing of voices commanding them to kill to achieve certain goals or activities.
- (iii) Expedience-directed serial killers are motivated by profit or protection. Those of them that are driven by profit kill in order to make financial or material gain, while those of them that are influenced by protection orientation kill or murder people in order to mask other crimes such as embezzlement and robbery.

Criminologists have also developed typology for the mass murderer, who kills more than three persons at a single criminal event and time due to political motivations, victim-offender relationship, degree of planning and randomness in the selection of victims and the state of mind of the perpetrator – frustrations, revenge, love, blame, isolation, failure, profit, terror and other external and internal motivations and situational factors (Levin and Fox, 1996).

Criminal profiles and typologies may be socially constructed based on the use and type of weapon, use and type of alcohol and drug and gang-type. For example, a

typology on criminal homicide involving whether gun was used or not may be developed and also, the type of weapon used in a criminal encounter will determine whether the encounter ends in death. The absence of a gun may determine whether the criminal encounter ends in assault and the difference between the use of a gun or a knife determines the degree of fatality rate. When guns are used in a criminal encounter rather than knives, the rate of fatality is ten (10) times higher than when knives were used (Cook and Moore, 1999:252). The use of a weapon-type by offenders depends on their criminal intent and what they want to achieve. Criminal projections guide offenders to make a choice of weapon. Lethal weapons are used to achieve deadly force. Criminal offenders use selected alcohol or drugs to avoid any restraint to the use of violence and to increase the occurrence of lethal nature of violence (Goldstein, 1995).

In robbery cases, especially those involving banks and homes, violence may be used to evoke threat or use of force to achieve robbery success - that of taking another person's property by force. In this sense, typologies of robbery may be developed by categorizing robbery in different locations and also, whether they occurred on highways or streets and referred to as 'hiway robberies' or 'muggings'. Other acceptable typology of robberies include the personal robberies and the institutional robberies.

- (i) Personal robberies are robberies that occur in residential homes, and may be controlled or prevented through personal efforts.
- (ii) Institutional robberies are robberies that occur in public and private institutions (schools, markets, convenience stores, etc.) and may be prevented through environmental and public policies.

THE VICTIMS' PERSPECTIVE

Victimology is the sub area of Criminology that is concerned with 'the study of the victim' (Drapkin and Viano, 1975:xiii). Criminological studies have indicated that people are not by nature destined to be victimized but are victims, either because they are at a place at the wrong time or that they make certain contributions that get them involved to be victimized. Anyone could be a victim of crime, regardless of their socio-economic status in society. When criminologists study crime victims, these victims are categorized based on group characteristics. A typical example of a crime victim typology includes: the innocent crime victim, the prone crime victim, the crime victim contributor, the white-collar victims, and the street crime victims. Those crimes pertaining to the victims' property are committed because of the criminals' need for survival, while those crimes committed against the person, called personal crimes, are

committed by those who have been personally brutalized by the resultant conditions of a capitalist system.

Victim-Offender Relationship

Studies of the relationship between the victim and the offender have revealed certain overt and covert behavioural attitude and characteristics of both the victim and the offender and have also revealed some symbiotic interpersonal relationship that creates the pattern of victimization. Specifically, these criminological studies of the victim-offender relationship reveal that:

- (i) Every crime incidence has a victim; therefore, victims of crimes vary from place to place and they include the young, the adolescent, the poor, the minority, men and women as well as persons of all classes and socio-economic backgrounds.
- (ii) A victim is someone, or institution, place or property that has been violated by a criminal act. Any physical harm or injury done to an individual makes the individual a victim. When a state is threatened or its body-polity is hurt or distorted and disrupted, the state becomes the victim. The generality of Nigerians can be victims of conventional crimes, white-collar crimes, organized crimes and many other types / forms of crime.

- (iii) Victims of crime suffer the loss of lives and property, which can retard socio-economic development in the country.
- (iv) Several victims of crime who suffer injuries may be referred to as victims of injustices, while others suffer as victims of abject poverty (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c:327).
- (v) Victims of crime are usually compensated; often, their non-financial problems are handled by government agencies (e.g. social welfare).
- (vi) The victims of violent crime (e.g. aggravated assaults and rape) are known by their attackers – crime perpetrators. Victims of property crime are also usually the rich, middle and upper class persons.
- (vii) Victims of crime, often fail to report to the police because the police may complicate the matter or even implicate the victims.
- (viii) Victim-constituencies are vast, and may include everyone who identifies with a victim, or are a victim's siblings, friends and colleagues who can empathize with the victim in respect of the injury or pain the victim is experiencing.
- (ix) Victims suffer from different types of crime. Therefore, there could be victims of homicide, victims of human rights abuse, victims of burglary, robbery, sexual offences, corruption, and many others.

- (x) In most homicide cases in families, women were more likely than men to be both offenders and victims.
- (xi) Male victims were more likely to be killed by friends and strangers than by other family members.
- (xii) In the family circle, males are more likely to be killed by female offenders who are most likely to be their spouses.
- (xiii) Primary homicide occurs more frequently than non primary homicide. *Primary homicide* involves family members, friends, and acquaintances. This category of persons commit '*expressive crimes*' which are crimes caused by interpersonal hostility resulting from revenge, jealousy, romance triangles, and minor disagreements. *Non primary homicide* occurs between the victims and offenders who have no previous relationship or encounter, and occurs in the course of another crime. An example is when robbery takes place in a bank and a female customer is killed or raped in the process. This is termed '*instrumental crime*' because there is some degree of premeditation, a clear motive on the part of the offender who perpetrated the crime and less of precipitate element from the part of the victims.
- (xiv) The socio-economic characteristics of victims provide the profile of persons who could become victims to certain crimes and criminals.

- (xv) The victim-offender relationship affects the administration of law and justice. The administration of law and justice must take the form of 'restorative justice'. This is an approach of conflict resolution, or management, to right the wrong, harm or injury done to the victim, an injury that violated the legal and human rights of the victim. The offender then accepts guilt and consequent payment of compensation to the victim in order to restore mutual relationship and respect between the offender and the victim.
- (xvi) There is differential treatment on the part of victim and offender by the criminal justice system (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c:326-327). Often, the criminal justice system equivocally provides 'fair' and 'just' treatment for the victims and their offenders.

Soyombo (2009:13) contends that in the relationship between offenders and victims, we are not only to be afraid of strangers, but even our acquaintances who may be criminally inclined to commit certain crimes (e.g. murder, physical assault and sexual assault).

CRIMINOLOGY IN NIGERIA

Origin and Development

Prof. Darlington Iwarimie-Jaja, an eminent and front line Nigerian Criminologist has explained the history of Criminology in Nigeria. According to Iwarimie-Jaja

(2012c:563-594), Criminology, the study of crime, did not commence in Nigeria until 'labels or terminologies were developed to differentiate types' of crimes and offenders that are in the same category. This became 'the beginning of the birth of Criminology in Nigeria'. Before then, there were customary laws and rules made by traditional rulers to guide behaviour.

The Period before Independence (1900-1959)

In the period 1900-1959, communities in Nigeria had an informal court system headed by village chiefs who were subordinate to the king. In Northern Nigeria, for example, Okonkwo (1986:57) asserts that the Emir and his subordinate chiefs had their own courts. Cases that cannot be resolved in the 'lower courts' or subordinate courts end in the Emir's court whose judgement is final. As these traditional customary courts could not adequately handle matters emanating from foreign trade, the British government introduced formal courts in Nigeria to protect their interest.

The Period of Independence and before the Economic Boom

By 1960, these formal courts dispensed justice in Nigerian communities with the aid of the legal profession, the prison department, and the police. These socio-political institutions

reacted to crime situations and became the main source of crime-control in Nigeria.

In the period of independence (1960) and before the civil war (1967-1969), there were no studies about crime and delinquency (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2006a:226). Criminology was not seen as a bonafide area of Sociology. However, by 1963, Nigeria had a constitution, and a growing population of people educated in the western Europe and were versed in professions such as Law and Sociology. Those in government service who were trained policemen, prison officials and lawyers were regarded as knowledgeable in crime and delinquency. The study of crime or etiology remained personal ventures for these government officials until July, 1968, when the opportunity for the birth of Criminology came as the Prison Department and the Faculty of Law of the University of Lagos jointly organized a National Conference on Nigerian Prison System. Contributions from the conference which included the study of prisoners' rights and the penal institution formed the foundation for Nigerian Criminology. This gave rise to the teaching of Criminology courses in the discipline of Sociology in Nigerian Universities (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c:569-570).

However, there has not been a consensus among Nigerian criminologists to regard Criminology as a separate discipline of its own or to be zoned in any other discipline other than Sociology or Law. Nigerian criminologists

recognized its interdisciplinary nature but did not institute it into various departments or faculties. By the requirement of the National Universities Commission, Nigerian Universities are to offer Masters and Doctorate degrees in areas of specialization confined to 'Criminology and Sociology of Deviance' or 'Penology and Sociology of Law' (National Universities Commission's Benchmark Minimum Academic Standard for Post-Graduate Programmes in Social Sciences, November 2011).

The Period of Economic Boom (1970-1979)

The period of Economic boom (1970-1979) provided the opportunity for a series of studies on armed robbery and victimization. While enriching the Nigerian literature on Criminology, these studies showed that a crime problem exists in Nigeria (Odekunle, 1977:351) and that crime increased when the oil boom was stronger (Iwarimie-Jaja, 1995; 1998a). Although criminologists continued to study the causes, solutions and implications of the crime problem in Nigeria, Criminology did not become a separate discipline but remained subsumed in the discipline of Sociology.

The Period After the Economic Boom (1980-2013)

Research studies in the period 1980-1999, showed that the increase in crime was due to economic crisis and that the latter was a determinant of serious crimes in Nigeria. In 1985,

a United Nations Congress paper on new dimensions of criminality and crime prevention added value to Nigerian Criminology literature, and, by the 1990s, there were books on Nigerian Criminology. This notwithstanding, the devastating effects of Nigerian crime problem on its citizens continued unabated.

The National Office of Statistics showed that crime rates rose astronomically at certain times in the post oil boom (1980-1989) era. The police bureau records also indicate that most crimes committed in the post-oil boom periods were of the serious type. Even in the 1990s, official statistical records show that victims of serious crimes stood the risk of being murdered and injured than victims of minor or simple crimes or offences than they were in the 1970s and 1980s. These patterns and trends have been noticed in the 21st century and the youths are mostly the perpetrators of serious crimes, especially the violent type (e.g. armed robbery).

Of the crimes reported to the police, in the Metropolitan cities, property crimes constitute a larger proportion. Property crimes reported to the police in 2001, rose in 2002, but dropped in 2003. The decrease was as a result of the political election in 2003, when most of the youths were drafted into political campaign and other electioneering activities. However, it was noted that in 2003, crimes against persons increased, caused by election violence and thuggery (Soyombo, 2007 and 2009).

Although the overall trend suggest a general decline up to 2004, an upward trend set in from 2005 and persisted till 2012, the trend of non-serious crimes such as simple offences maintained a steady decline. Between 2009 and 2012, the trends of serious crimes such as murder, kidnapping and assassination climbed up, but slightly declined in the latter part of 2012. The pattern of organized serious crimes in modern Nigeria has now assumed a high level of sophistication, and has adopted the mode of terrorism with the use of high-tech weaponry. Even the criminals have become more daring – carrying bombs, dynamites and other explosives (e.g. hand grenades) to ensure maximum success in their operations.

Crime in Nigeria do not vary by sex. Both male and female, young or old are equal participants and perpetrators in both serious and minor crimes. The criminals cut across different family backgrounds, ethnicity, states, age, education or personality traits. There is a large variation in crime rates between male and female criminals, and among ethnic groups. This is not to say that sex and ethnicity are causes of criminal behaviour. However, males are more involved in certain crimes than females. The eastern part of Nigeria, have higher involvement rates than the western and the northern parts. In the states of the federation, indigenes are more involved in crimes than the non-indigenes. Also, more lower class persons are involved in serious crimes than

middle and upper class persons. Criminal Justice records show that young and male persons are predominantly involved in crimes than old and male or young and female, or old and female persons (Iwarimie-Jaja, 1999).

It has been observed that the patterns and trends of crime in Nigeria have been greatly influenced by young persons who are educated and intelligent. Many crimes are recorded to have been perpetrated by persons who are graduates of both foreign and indigenous universities. Also, the proliferation of guns has contributed to the patterns and trends of crimes in Nigeria.

The collaborative attitudes of law enforcement agents have enhanced our studies and improved our knowledge about criminals and crimes. The Criminal Justice records show that some serving and discharged law enforcement personnel, including military officials are involved in crime. In fact, the lack of sophisticated crime control equipment are contributory factors that account for the pattern and trends of crime under discussion. There is a symbiotic relationship between male and female persons as well as young and adult persons in the perpetuation of crime in Nigeria. The character of crime pattern and trends have become more sophisticated and dangerous in the 21st Century than before the 21st Century.

The period from 2000 to the present, has witnessed an increase in violent crimes occasioned by youth restiveness,

militancy, and religious fundamentalism. Reasons given for the rise of urban violence (from studies by criminologists) range from the break-down of traditional structures that once held people together, to alienation of the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria, and environmental pollution.

NIGERIA'S CRIME PROBLEM

Some time in the 20th Century, Femi Odekunle, a famous Nigerian Criminologist and the 'first Professor of Criminology' in Nigeria, declared that a crime-problem exists in modern Nigeria. According to Odekunle (1977:351), a crime-problem is

A chronic and recalcitrant situation in which the occurrence of crime is systematic rather than random; in which the incidence is high and the phenomenon is prevalent, in which crime takes on a definite character, complexity, and 'organisation'; in which all sections and sectors of the population are participating in its perpetration; in which prevention, control, and correctional instrumentalities are rendered virtually ineffective and are consequently driven to unwitting and self-defeating repressive measures; and in which the loss and distress caused by actual criminal victimization or the fear, anxiety, and helplessness about potential victimization are pervasive and observable in the population.

Crime is a major socio-economic problem in modern Nigeria. It has remained pervasive and persistent over the

years, especially in this period of economic crisis. It threatens the sovereignty of the nation and it needs to be controlled. All sorts of criminal activities have worsened the crime situation in Nigeria. Corruption has been on a high scale since the 1980s and has affected good governance, including democracy, human rights, security, patriotism and the ability of government to provide adequate welfare system, infrastructure and amenities for its citizens. Corruption in Nigeria has devastated the Nigerian economy and increased Nigeria's crime problem. The practice of corruption in Nigeria includes 'bribery, embezzlement, fraud, extortion, mobilization fee racket, contract inflation or fictitious contracts, over-invoicing and salaries of ghost workers' (Elechi, 2005:1044).

Coercion, conflict and violence have become the pattern of Nigeria's crime problem. The nature and scope of Nigeria's crime problem includes money-laundering, cyber-crime, drug trafficking, women and children trafficking, armed robbery, cult/ritual killings (e.g. murder/assassinations), kidnapping, burglary, rape, and theft/stealing. It affects all classes of people and the perpetrators and victims include all kinds of persons and organizations or groups. Law enforcement agencies (such as the Police, the Customs, the Immigration Services, the State Security Service and Drug Law Enforcement Agency) have arrested and prosecuted adults and young persons, non-public-office-holders and public-office-holders, but the tempo of Nigeria's crime

problem has not decreased, instead it has continued to escalate.

Economic / Financial Consequences

The increasing trend of the Nigeria's crime problem has become a source of great concern to the society and stakeholders, especially to individuals, families and other groups (bankers, market traders, manufacturers, etc) corporate organizations, the government, and the international community (Soyombo, 1992).

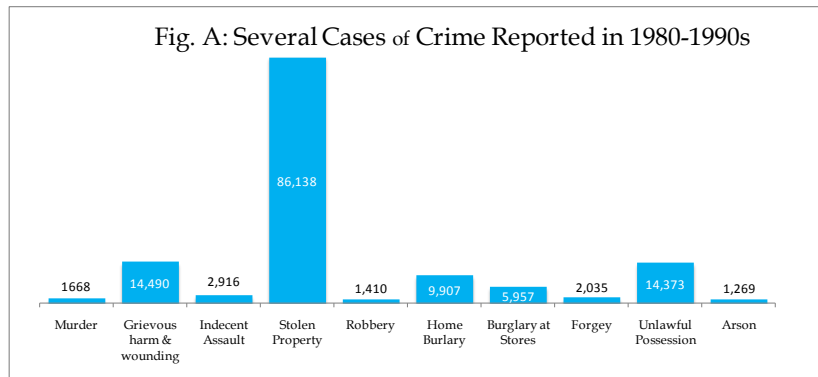
Unfortunately, the efforts made by vigilante groups (all over the federation) and government have not yielded any substantial dividend. Recent crimes against persons and property have heightened the fear and anxiety that people have about crime. Crime of all sorts, especially armed robbery, assassination, theft and cult/ritual killings, kidnapping and violent murder of persons by terrorist groups have denied people of peace and security in their environments – homes, offices, recreation centres, churches, etc. (Sunday Sun, August 19, 2007:30; Sunday Punch, March 22, 2009:8; The Nation, Saturday, January 7, 2012:3; The Nation (Monday, September 24, 2012:144).

There has also been intra and inter-ethnic conflicts (e.g. the Eket-Ibeno conflict and the Ijaw-Itsekiri conflict). Other conflicts include those of ethnic groups against government and international corporations - the Niger Delta crisis

caused deaths, injuries, assaults and destruction of public and private properties. Violent religious group conflicts, not only threatened the stability of the nation, but has exacerbated the Nigerian crime problem substantially (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2005).

In the period of economic boom (1970-1979), the Nigerian government declared that increase in crime rate far outstripped the country's technological, economic and social development rates, either individually or collectively (Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1980:2). In 1980, when the country entered the period of economic crisis, the inflation rate and unemployment rate increased astronomically, and people experienced tremendous economic hardship and those who could not bear the high level of deprivation and frustration learned to commit different types of crimes. Several news media reported the high cost of crime in Nigeria in the 1980s and 1990s in incalculable sums of money, and physical and mental agonies. 'For victims of murder, there were 1,668 cases; for grievous harm and wounding, there were 14,490 cases; for rape and indecent assault, there were 2,916 cases; for stolen property, there were 86,138 cases; for robbery, there were 1,410 cases; for burglary at homes, there were 9,907 cases and for business stores, there were 5,957 cases. Also, '2,035 forgery cases were committed; 14,373 cases of unlawful possession and 1,269 cases of arson were committed'

(Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1985:29-47).
(See figure A below).



Most crimes, especially violent crime (murder/ assassination, arson, rape and armed robbery) and such crimes as oil bunkering, political election disruptions, and kidnapping have devastated the Nigerian society. These crimes are known to have been committed by the use of violence and militancy.

Why a crime problem in Nigeria? The answer to this question is not difficult. The Nigeria's crime problem has been sown and nurtured by the effects of capitalist economic order introduced into the country by colonialism, and western colonial education, economic and political systems. Experiment with democracy bred all kinds of behaviour, especially when the citizens are not patriotic, and all forms of socio-economic and political institutions are not democratized. The effect has been that of a militarized state – people have learnt how to use force or coercion and violence to obtain their materialistic desires. Over the years, there has been the intensification of lust for material. There

has also been moral decadence, and criminals and delinquents are no longer afraid of punishment and are not deterred from committing heinous crimes (particularly, crimes against persons and property, white collar crimes and organized crimes).

In view of the reasons why the crime-problem in Nigeria has continued and may continue for more decades to come, Iwarimie-Jaja (2005:45) states that political office holders (“the haves”) have continued to illegally amass the wealth of the nation, and this has caused a spin-off crisis in the economy and political system to the point that some class of persons “the have-nots” have become poorer, marginalized, unemployed, dehumanized and demoralized. This crime-prone situation has degenerated to the point where, ultimately, both the “have” and “have-nots” have now come to jointly and tragically inflame and escalate Nigeria’s crime problem.

Corruption has eaten deep into the Nigerian society / social fabric, and the Federal Government has failed to seriously prosecute all corrupt practices and persons, especially office holders (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c:591). Serious crimes such as urban gang violence, trans-border economic crimes, and terrorism have not been eliminated (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c:576). Violent crime is now professionalized and structured due to the fact that most of its perpetrators are educated and are being advised and assisted by people who

have expertise in police, military and security operations (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c:578).

These sorts of crime have worsened and increased Nigeria's crime problem and have continued to exist because of:

- (i) The breakdown of traditional structures that once unified and held people together (Aderinto, 1994).
- (ii) The proliferation of guns in the hands of people who suffer from economic hardship (Oruwari, 2006; Akparanta, 1994).
- (iii) The marginalization of the people and massive unemployment; and the unemployed are afflicted with endemic poverty in the midst of plenty (Chukuezi, 2009).
- (iv) Alienation of the educated – persons who are well educated and qualified cannot get a well paid job and are not given their rightful position in the economic or political sector (Oruwari, 2006).

CONSEQUENCES OF NIGERIA'S CRIME-PROBLEM

Concern for the consequences of Nigeria's crime problem has been mounting ever since the Late President Yar'Adua promised Nigerians security of life and property and the reduction of crime rate by 40 percent (The Nation, Friday, May 29, 2009:9).

Crime has continued to be on the increase, and it has inflicted diverse socio-economic and international effects on individuals, groups, families, corporate bodies, government agencies and organizations, and the whole society has been affected directly or indirectly. The existence of these crimes discourages some people from undertaking and engaging in legitimate productive ventures in manufacturing, construction and large-scale farming (Iwarimie-Jaja, 1990a). Crimes may have both manifest and latent consequences (Merton, 1968).

Economic/Financial Consequences

The direct effect of crime such as robbery, burglary, destruction of property, theft and arson is economic loss to the victim(s). The consequence of crime such as money laundering, economic fraud, financial embezzlement, etc. is grave economic and financial loss to the nation. Individuals, groups, families, corporate bodies, governments, spend money on preventive measures (such as installation of electronic devices, burglary-proof doors and window protectors and personalized gates, watchdogs and private security guards). This expenditure could have been used for essential needs to better lives of Nigerians.

The cost of economic crimes such as corruption, inflation of contract invoices, and the repatriation of illegally made money in Nigeria to foreign banks have huge damaging effects on the Nigerian economy. It costs the Nigerian

government millions of Naira to control human trafficking and drug trafficking all of which have adverse consequences on the nation.

Oil Bunkering alone has huge economic cost on the Nigerian economy; so also the vandalism /destruction of oil pipelines. An estimated economic cost of oil pipeline vandalism in 2003 was about ₦13 billion naira; probably on 250,000 barrels of oil loss per day (Ariweriokuma, 2008). To protect oil pipelines, the ex-militants were hired on a contract sum of ₦5.8 billion naira (The Nation, Thursday, August 23, 2012:13). Going by the Federal Government Budget for past years, more than ₦195 billion naira would be required for security, police formations and command in 2014/2015. There is no doubt that the economic effects of crime have serious economic implication for Nigeria's growing population (which is presently over 160 million people).

Physical and Emotional Consequences

Crime has diverse consequences for individuals, groups, corporate bodies and the society. Its physical effects on people include bodily injuries inflicted and sustained, especially from gun-shot, sharp instruments, and other forms of victimization. Crimes against persons such as murder, rape and assault, cost individuals and society medical expenses for autopsy, treatment of wounds, bruises

and cuts on victims. Often, the victims and non-victims, especially neighbours, relatives and friends including passers-by have emotional or psychological effects from a 'crime-event' they witness. Many of such persons develop psychological neurosis and pay for medical and psychiatric treatment.

Moral Consequences

Incidents of crime and its persistence and prevalence have moral effects on individuals in the society. Corruption, prostitution, illicit, and vandalisation of oil pipelines lowers the moral of the people. Corruption in Nigeria has assumed such tragic dimension that it can never be over discussed. Its spread is so pervasive and labyrinthine, and its effects and consequences so inclusive. It afflicts the three tiers of the Nigerian establishment; yet so elusive it has, so far, eluded any form of check and control. Prostitution is another such crime of tragic consequences followed closely by illicit arms deals. Perpetrators of these criminal acts have not been severely punished under the law, and some people have come to adopt them as a way of life; it is, as if, the society approves of them and sees nothing wrong in them. This is the case now in Nigeria. No doubt, moral standards and values have been relegated to the background, and some people have the effrontery to engage in oil bunkering, vandalisation of oil pipelines, and bribery and corruption

with impunity. They may be right, since there are no legal retributions, even if they are caught.

Social Consequences

Social life and social relationships of people are affected. The fear of crime has kept some people away from social affairs. In some neighborhoods, particularly in the cities, social life activities have been paralyzed due to urban/gang violence which poses a threat to life and property causing fear in the people. Fear is the price the Nigerian urban and semi-urban dweller pays. His life and property are always on the line. Armed robbery, rape, assassination, arson, burglary, car snatching, kidnapping and hostage-taking – these are the city-dwellers' daily encounter with the true-life manifestations of crime in Nigeria. Ekpenyong (1999:15-16) posits that the incidence of violent crime in Nigeria is 'higher in big cities than small ones'. In the light of Ekpenyong's opinion, it is believable that violent crimes have affected both urban and rural residents alike, including ethnic nationalities. Ethnic groups and urban-rural residents have experienced violent crimes in the form of blood bath wars, religious conflict, and armed robbery, some of which has resulted in many deaths, injuries and destruction of property. In recent times, violence has been perpetrated by youths due to negative youth restiveness – 'actions carried out by the youths that are not perceived to be in the interest

of the larger society or the state' (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c:592). Indeed negative youth restiveness is a serious security threat to the development of the state. It has the potential to derail the economic and political development of the nation. Examples of the activities of negatively restive youths would include the blowing up of oil pipelines by Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) and the terrorist activities of the bombing of places (e.g. police stations, churches and schools) and the killings of innocent citizens by Boko Haram.

When people are afraid to keep important social-interpersonal appointments with friends and relatives, it means that the social effects of crime has become serious. Only the rich and well placed in society, including high-ranked government officials are able to move about with police escort and personal security guards. People are also afraid to relate to anyone they do not know, for fear of being kidnapped, or touched and caused to disappear. Greetings and hospitality are no longer for strangers. People are also afraid to tell strangers what the time in the day or night is, for fear that a mysterious thing may happen to them. Car drivers no longer stop to give a stranger or even a known person a lift or a ride to their destinations. People have a distrust for one another. All of these have a socio-psychological effect on the society and individuals. When people see other people who have been victimized, they fear

for their lives and refuse to socialize with the public or move or drive alone in the streets. The scare of car snatching by armed robbers has made some people not to buy or use their new cars. Many of such persons have continued to ride in taxi cabs as a decoy to prevent being kidnapped (Sunday Vanguard, May 18, 2008:7).

Political Consequences

We note here Schafer's assertion that all crimes are politically-related to politics (Schafer, 1971). This is because, in a democratically elected government, laws are made and promulgated or passed by representative bodies called the National Assembly or State Assembly. Also, the laws that are made are enforced and interpreted through processes in which politics are at play (Reid, 1982:255). Crimes, in general, can have political effect on a nation and its citizens. However, political crimes are special types of crimes that could directly threaten the stability and legitimacy of government. Indeed, political crimes are criminal actions against the state because they threaten the political existence or stability of government. Often, political crimes challenge the authority of government or state. Any action taken by any person or group of persons aimed at disorganizing or changing the social structure of the state or government because of its monopoly on the use of force is considered as a political crime. Actions that criminal law defines as political

crime include treason, sedition, espionage, sabotage, assassination, war collaboration, violation of military draft regulations, civil rights violations, student protest violations, violations resulting from the advocacy of and support for 'radical beliefs' and failure to conform to certain laws because of religious beliefs (Clinard and Quinney, 1973:178-9). Other actions considered as political crime include the behaviours of public office-holders in attempt to enforce the law. Examples include police brutality committed in attempt to preserve social order but violates a higher law, whether federal, state or local laws. The 'denial of free speech and the restriction of free assembly' (Reid, 1982:256) may be considered actions of political crime. Most political crimes, when allowed to go on for a considerable period, uncontrolled by the state, are a direct threat to the corporate existence of the government, and they do cast aspersions on the capacity of government officials who govern and rule the country. Relative high rates of crime breed insecurity and military coup d'état which have been carried out in the past in Nigeria based on 'insecurity of lives and property' orchestrated by high crime rates in the country.

International Consequences

Nigerians are known for various crimes in overseas countries. Some of the criminal activities in which they are involved include: tax evasion, large scale fraud, money

laundering, illegal immigration, smuggling, embezzlement, theft, prostitution, trafficking in illegal drugs and vehicle theft, political corruption, extortion, human trafficking, kidnapping, armed robberies, environmental crimes, murder, gambling, forgery, illegal trafficking in arms and ammunitions, insurance scams, and racketeering.

Crimes such as kidnapping, assassinations, computer crimes (cyber crimes) economic and financial crimes, and other serious crimes (e.g. drug trafficking and human trafficking) have damaged Nigeria's international image. Foreigners are afraid to do business with Nigerians and the state of insecurity occasioned by militancy in the Niger Delta Region have scared foreign investors from investing their money in the Nigerian political economic system. Foreign governments (e.g. the United States of America) have warned her citizens to be cautious while traveling to Nigeria because its citizens are fraudulent and known for committing advance fee fraud – a.k.a. 419. At one time, foreign governments (e.g. America and United Kingdom) labeled Nigeria as a 'security risk' nation. Foreigners traveling to Nigeria were told not to rely on the Nigeria Police and that there are no safe havens in Nigeria, because Nigeria has a defective or ineffective crime control mechanisms.

The bad international image that Nigeria has overseas impacts negatively on her citizens who live abroad – the

Diaspora. Nigerians are no longer trusted with banking facilities and innocent Nigerian travelers are subjected to an embarrassing physical checks, and many are denied entry at the port of entry. Some of them that are allowed into the country of their destination are subjected to certain regulations and denied certain privileges. The case regarding a Nigerian citizen named Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab shocked the world, when he attempted to bomb an American-bound airline carrying almost 300 passengers (Wikipedia, 2012). This case stunned the world and up till date Nigerians abroad are being feared for their notoriety for committing heinous crimes. This singular terrorist act by Umar Abdulmutallab, which prompted the United State government to introduce tougher screening rules for foreign passengers arriving by air from fourteen security-risk countries including Nigeria, had much political and international impact on Nigeria. As a result, the late President Umaru Yar'Adua forwarded an anti-terrorism bill to the National Assembly for consideration and implementation into law (Africanasearchlight, 2012).

CAUSAL FACTORS OF CRIME IN NIGERIA

Generally, the causal factors of crime are several. Often, it has been argued that a single factor may not generate crime. But it is accepted that a joint relationship may exist among various factors of crime. Some of the causal factors that

relate together and give birth to, or are associated with the genesis of crime in Nigeria are revealed in this inaugural lecture as follows:

Defective National Development Plans

Defective/inadequate Development plans of previous years have contributed to the lack of crime control capabilities in Nigeria. Beginning from the second National Development Plan (1970-74) and those of previous years/periods, there had been insufficient budgetary allocation for crime-control. These National Development plans had loopholes that encouraged mismanagement, maldistribution of resources and corruption. They did not positively fulfill their set objectives. For example, there was the increased incidence of inequality in public servants' incomes; capitalist features of the war of the classes, states and local government areas and this has caused oppression and alienation based on class, social status, ethnic group and state of origin, all these sprouted unchecked.

Generally, there was no reduction of inequalities in income and consumption standards, which have negative effects on political stability, social justice and efficient and effective productivity. In fact, citizens had over the years experienced a reduction in their incomes. Doubt and fear of

the future was noticeable among individuals and socio-economic groups. Unemployment has continued to increase and spread to an alarming proportions.

With the conditions under which these National Development Plans had become obviously still-born and criminogenic, creating the amoral and avaricious 'economic man', Nigeria's crime problem continued to grow firm, strong and tragically potent (Odekunle, 1985).

Unemployment

The annual unemployment rate of any country is argued by scholars to be underestimated, but its study has always indicated a high rate, an alert warning which is sufficient to aggravate the problem of crime in the country. In Nigeria, there is a relatively high level of under-employment and marginal employment. Indeed, the problem of unemployment has become chronic and intractable. It is the result of an unplanned economy, the result of mismanagement, greed and corruption in the economy. All these have created the opportunity for increased rates of already intractable unemployment from year to year, and from one period / season to another. Its magnitude is higher in the urbanized areas than in the rural areas; from where the youths are drifting off into the cities.

The literature on unemployment and crime must be able to validate the clear and definite relationship between the two phenomena. In the review of scholarly works by

Iwarimie-Jaja (1998b:63-64), the assertion that unemployment and crime have a positive and significant relationship is supported by leading scholars such as Fleisher (1963), Singell (1967), Friday (1970), Box (1985) and Edmark (2003). Contrary to the findings of these scholars, other leading scholars (Spector, 1975; Fox, 1978; Wadyeki and Balkin, 1979; Saridakis and Spengler, 2009) found no or an inverse relationship between unemployment and crime. However, Iwarimie-Jaja, (1998b), asserts that when the period of unemployment is prolonged, the effect of being unemployed becomes more devastating, and individuals are more likely to commit crime. The study concluded that when the period of unemployment is prolonged (1970-1990), unemployment leads to poverty, hunger, frustration and threatens livelihood. Therefore, unemployment creates the condition which triggers an individual to develop criminal tendency to maintain life.

Poverty

Nigeria has been declared to be one of the poorest countries in the world, even though it has been exploring oil for the past 52 years now. Over \$400 billion has accrued into the Nigerian State accounts, but the revenue has not been translated into infrastructural development of the country and there is low standard of living among the Nigerian masses (Chukuezi, 2009). Every where in Nigeria, displays

clear signs of poverty: hunger, malnutrition, misery and destitution (Akanmidu , 2004:3). This endemic problem is now habitual.

Though official Statistics on poverty rate in Nigeria is not reliable, it has been relatively high, and Nigerians have continued to live below the poverty line of \$1 per day (Human Development Report, 2007/2008). It is observed that poverty in Nigeria is unevenly distributed due to varying socio-economic conditions and inequalities. Studies (e.g. Koruhauser, 1978 and Cohen, Felson and Land, 1980; Canter and Land, 1985) have indicated that the differentiation in the spatial distribution of crime is due to the degree of poverty traits in the area. Block and Heineke (1975) and Kelly (2000) opine that there is a direct correlation between poverty and crime, but Williams' (2001) study showed there is no causal relationship between poverty and crime. To support his findings, Williams (2001) argued that there are several poor countries in the world today but their crime rate is relatively low. But this is not true of Nigeria.

Nigeria has mineral wealth but it is not a rich country. Nigeria is considered among the twenty poorest countries in the world. Over 80 million Nigerians are living in poverty. These persons live below one U.S. dollar per day (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2005; Ribadu, 2005). Nigeria is experiencing a crime problem that has remained unabated. Poverty is visible every where in Nigeria. Within urban and rural areas, especially in

the urban cities, crime is concentrated in the poor (slum) neighbourhoods. Such poor neighbourhoods attract criminals because of the absence of a strong social control mechanisms. Chronic criminals reside in the slum neighbourhoods because they are unable to pay for better accommodation and these areas serve as hiding place for them.

Poverty, unemployment and crime are the three-prong social problems that have continued to besiege Nigeria. In fact, there have been worsening conditions of mass poverty, and an increasing level of unemployment and escalating crime. These factors have aggravated the crime-situation in the country because they breed frustration and the tendency for people who are poor and unemployed to engage in criminal activities (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c: 383-386).

Family

The family has enormous influence on behaviour. Family processes and parent-child relations, if defective, could result in risky behaviour. Children whose parents are habitually aggressive learn aggressive behaviour from their parents who serve as aggressive models. Such aggressive models have themselves been seriously abused when they were growing up. Studies of abuse-violence association have shown that a significant number of parents have been murdered by their children. Sexual abuse cases are reported in father (patricide) and mother (matricide) killings (Heide, 1990).

Defective Family relationship

When children lose their parents through death, divorce, desertion or prolonged separation, the deprivation that results could degenerate into delinquency or criminality (Bossard and Boll, 1943:163). Studies have shown that abnormal or defective family relationship exists much more in families where there are delinquent children than among families of comparable children who do not exhibit delinquent character (Slawson, 1923; Monahan, 1962:322).

Anti-socialization processes in the family account for delinquent and criminal behaviour. Delinquent and criminal tendencies are learnt at an early age and sharpened by 'the quality and quantity of parent-child interaction' (Loeber, 1988).

Conflict Relationship

Most children, take to their parents' behaviour. If the family relationship is tense and conflictual, children learn to be aggressive. This becomes the norm especially when parents lack the capability to control their children's behaviour. Studies have also shown that family conflict behaviour is accounted for by parental lack of control over their children. This reduces family attachment and parental emphasis on normative regulation. When parents stop monitoring what their children are doing, the children are at liberty to take to drugs, alcohol, prostitution and all sorts of

vices. Thus, poor parenting skills and abdicating of parental responsibilities contribute to crime and delinquency in children.

Twin Studies

Studies on twins have concluded that, if one twin indulges in criminal behaviour, the probability that the other identical twin 'also would, was 35 percent, compared to only 12 percent if the twins were not identical' (Christiansen, 1977). However, an update to Christiansen's study by Medrick and Volavka (1989:478) concludes that genetic factors accounts for some of the variables linked to criminal behaviour.

Adoption Studies

Also, adoption studies have indicated that if adopted children are placed in homogeneous environments (i.e. if babies born to lower-class parents are adopted by lower-class parents), then the adoption may be successful. These studies indicate that if adoptees are placed with parents who deprive them (food, love and care), criminal behaviour could result.

Working Parents

In families where parents are workers and are out from their homes most of the time, social deprivations suffered by the children are likely to cause the children to be delinquents. If one parent is working, the situation is the same, especially where the father is the one always absent from the home. Children who find themselves in this kind of

situation without any parental-substitute may always remain outside with peer-friends. If the peer-group is a bad influence, the tendency is that the children may become delinquents and experience police encounters which may cause them to develop into hardened criminals.

Biochemical Factors

Biochemical Criminology is a study on crime-causation, dealing with biological components that influence involvement in criminal activities. Biochemical studies have identified and implicated food allergies and additives as potential factors that cause some persons to be violent, hyperactive, irritated, and intolerant, and therefore, have a tendency to commit crime.

Blood Sugar Levels

Blood sugar levels have also been identified and implicated as a potential source of aggressiveness. Specifically, high refined sugar content in the blood has been identified as a cause of hyperactivity and aggressive behaviour. Also, hypoglycemic conditions – low levels of blood sugar - is harmful to brain functioning and can result in severe headache, anxiety problems, confusion and aggressiveness. Studies have shown that violent male offenders who suffer from problems of blood sugar levels are

more likely to have hypoglycemia than non criminal offenders (Daigle, 2005:102-103).

Hormonal Levels

Hormonal levels have also been associated with anti-social behaviour or crime and delinquency. Studies have implicated high levels of testosterone (the male gonadal hormone) in increased levels cause aggressiveness in both male and female persons. However, more recent studies indicate that testosterone may not be directly related to aggressiveness, but its effect is mediated by social interaction. When high levels of testosterone causes irritability and frustration, the individual is incapable of healthy social interaction. Thus, this situational factor interacting with high testosterone levels may cause aggressive responses, and, therefore, cause an individual to behave in a criminal way. Research has shown that there is a mixed evidence that the relationship between the menstrual cycle and aggression exists. There is evidence that some women do react to hormonal changes with irritability and aggression, while some other women do not. Daigle (2005:103) argues that research on the relationship between menstrual cycle and aggression in women requires mediating variables to account for the reliability of this hypothetical statement.

Neuro-transmitters

Testosterone, when interacting with neurotransmitters may elicit aggressive behaviour. An important neurotransmitter which can produce aggression is called serotonin. It is a product of the brain, effective in calming individuals down. High levels of testosterone without serotonin from the brain may lead to aggressive or violent behaviour.

Another biochemical factor associated with criminality is the lack of neurotransmitters like dopamine. Persons identified through diagnosis that lack this neurotransmitter are said to be suffering from Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). Such persons exhibit impulsive behaviour that seems to be erratic. Such persons can respond well with medications.

Drugs

Nigerians are a drug-using society. Nigerians use alcohol or drugs regularly to entertain ourselves or friends, or to ease a headache. People use drugs to feel good. People use all manner of drugs to deal with everyday pains, stress and tensions, and to strive for better life or health. Every day new drugs are manufactured that promises to improve memory, weight loss and solve many other ailments. Also, in the market are consciousness – altering drugs such as marijuana, heroin and cocaine. The public safety in the excessive use of

these drugs is that it can influence their users to commit crime and delinquency. As addict users become emotionally depressed and nervous (Tepperman, 2006:136-137), they continue to search for means to obtain the drugs to calm themselves down. In such a situation, they are likely to do anything, including stealing, assault, burglary or commit robbery.

In Criminology, crime studies are distinguished into 'drug-defined' and 'drug-related' crimes. Drug-defined crimes include all violations of laws or legal codes 'prohibiting or regulating the possession, use or distribution of illegal drugs'. However, drug-related crimes 'are not violations of drug laws, but are crimes in which drugs contribute to the offense' (Bureau of Justice Statistics, Drugs, Crime and the Justice System, 1992:2). In Nigeria, most studies are on drug-defined crimes for which several persons have been arrested and imprisoned. Examples are studies on drug trafficking. Such studies account for the number of seizures and the method used in conveying the drugs (Iwarimie-Jaja, 1990b).

Educational Attainment

Criminological studies have attempted to link education and delinquency/criminality. It was earlier contended that educational success would lead to lower levels of delinquency/criminality among adolescents, but

contemporary empirical studies have revealed that there is an inverse relationship between education and criminality (Maguin and Loeber, 1996).

Schoepfer and Piquero (2005:479) contend that children who perform poorly academically are more likely to commit serious and violent offenses. They identified male persons in their association of education and criminality than female persons. Although, this association is stronger for male persons than female persons, it has been revealed that academic success along with other factors (e.g. unemployment, poverty or socio-economic inequality) can lead educated individuals to commit crime (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c).

MACRO-THEORIES

Many Western established criminological paradigms and perspectives have been applied in the study and explanations of Nigeria's crime problem. These include two major paradigms/perspectives, namely: the functionalist perspective and Marxist perspective.

Functionalist Perspective

Functionalism is a structural theorization of society. Functionalism in criminology theorizes that society is made up of components or parts which are integrated into a whole as interdependent parts. Social order or stability is based on

the degree of cohesiveness. Instability or disorder is due to the inability to effectively counterbalance the components or parts of society. Therefore, disorder or instability occurs when society loses its strength of cohesiveness and interdependence. The crime-problem in Nigeria is caused by the magnitude of social stratification and the impact of structural imbalances or disequilibria in the Nigerian society. Nigeria has a destabilized economic system that affects all other structures by dislocating people from the normal status quo and causing them to experience severe strain or frustration which influences them to commit all sorts of crimes

(Iwarimie-Jaja, 2005:47).

Marxist Perspective

The Marxist perspective have different aspects which include the materialistic and radical perspectives. The materialistic perspective is referred as the Marxist materialistic perspective. It argues that crime is a materialist problem that results from the unjust system of capitalism, that is, crime results from the capitalist economic order which allocates economic resources and wealth to citizens unequally, where the rich get more and the poor get less. Thus, crime is the end-product of the struggle between the rich and the poor for power in society. In the struggle, the most powerful groups formulated their norms and values

which are embodied in criminal laws for the control of the poor who have no power advantage. On the other hand, the Radical perspective (sometimes referred as the 'new', or 'critical' perspective) perceives the causes and origins of crime as rooted in social conditions that give rise to socio-economic inequality whereby a section of society is wealthy and politically well organized, but the other section is disenfranchised, depressed and un-privileged. In essence, radical criminologists see capitalism as the economic system which compels people to compete for material wealth. In so doing, its destructive effects result in crime, inflicted by the competition among the rich, and among the poor, than between the rich and the poor. William J. Chambliss explains that what accounts for the behaviour of some criminals is the coercive power of the state to enforce the will of the ruling class (Chambliss, 1978:193).

Nigeria's crime-problem is intensified by the class conflicts and contradictions of the economic order which deepens socio-economic crisis, causing alienation, tension, depression, frustration, dehumanization, and conflicts arising from the patterns of production, consumption and the use of hegemonic power (Ihonvbere and Iwarimie-Jaja, 1991). The 'uneven process of urbanization and industrial-economic development' (Odekunle, 1978:84) exacerbates Nigeria's crime-problem because the capitalist economic order produces greed, graft/hardwork, marginal and outright

unemployment, abject and relative poverty, high inflation rates, disorganized homes – broken homes and divorce, insecurity to life and property. Also, the criminal law is biased and it is systematically applied to unequal individuals to reinforce the existing inequalities (Odekunle, 1983:551) which drive some individuals to commit all sorts of crime.

MICRO-THEORIES

Several theories have been developed by both sociologists and criminologists to explain crime and delinquency. Most of such theories developed in the West are yet to be tested in Nigeria due to lack of funding. In this inaugural lecture, few of them that are germane to the positivist thought and contrary to the classical free-will doctrine are explained. These include the ecological theory, the anomie theory, the subcultural theory, the differential opportunity theory, the social learning theories, the conflict theory, the labeling theory and the social control theory.

The Ecological Theory

Criminologists have accepted that there is a relationship between ecological characteristics of an environment and crime and delinquency. Attempts have been made by criminologists of the Chicago school to explain crime and delinquency as a functional product of social change that takes place when there is an environmental change.

Ecological studies have established:

- (i) areas of high incidences of crime and delinquency as areas that are socially disorganized and that social disorganization is a cause of crime and delinquency.
- (ii) the absence of social control on crime and delinquency as a result of social disorganization.
- (iii) that crime and delinquency thrives where there is social approval by parents and neighbours, and where many opportunities are available and present themselves for criminal and delinquent behaviours; where there is little or no encouragement or opportunities for skill acquisition training and legitimate employment.
- (iv) that there is no much difference between delinquents and non- delinquents or criminals and non-criminals in terms of their personality traits, physiological conditions and characteristics, and intelligence.
- (v) that certain areas called the transition zone within the concentric circle is heavily populated primarily by low-income people and attracts as well as collect criminals (Shaw and McKay, 1972).

In Nigeria, studies have been carried out, which applied the ecological theory (the concentric circle), and results have revealed that 'armed robbery was committed more frequently in Zones II (the middle residential area) and III (the slum areas) than in Zone I (the elitist residential area)

and IV (the Peripheral settlement areas), because the middle class residential and the slum areas provided less security for lives and property against bandits (Iwarimie-Jaja, 1990a).

Strain Theory

Anomie Theory

Robert Merton's anomie theory (1938) explains the contradiction / disjunction which existed in societies between cultural goals and the social structure. Merton argued that cultural goals are aspirations of people and are held high, but the social structure limits the legitimate institutionalized means for achieving these goals. The legitimate institutionalized means are the Protestant core ethics of hard-work, educational attainment, and deferred gratification. The illegitimate means are the crooked ways (e.g. force and fraud). An inference that can be deduced from the theory of anomie is that a strain or a form of frustration exists when the social structure limits individuals from the use of legitimate institutionalized means to reach their desired actual goals. When the strain occurs in the structure of society, all social classes may be affected, but the lower class individuals are the most affected.

Merton proposed that when anomie or normlessness (i.e. lawlessness) exist in society, individuals respond to the problem, or strain, in one of several different ways: (1)

conformity, (2) innovation, (3) ritualism, (4) retreatism, and (5) rebellion.

Merton's typology of modes of individual adaptation is illustrated in the table below.

Modes of Adaptation		Cultural Goals	Institutional Means
1.	Conformity	+	+
2.	Innovation	+	-
3.	Ritualism	-	+
4.	Retreatism	-	-
5.	Rebellion	±	±

Key/Legend: + signifies 'acceptance'; - signifies 'rejection';
and ± signifies rejection of prevailing values and means and substitution of new values and means.

In modern Nigeria, the modes of innovation, retreatism, and rebellion are adopted by persons who become deviants, criminals and delinquents.

Nigerian criminologists have applied the anomie theory in their studies, and its effectiveness recommended its use in explaining working class criminal activities. For example, Soyombo (2009:14) explained that during anomie, people devise other means, especially illegitimate/illegal means to achieve societal goal of success and, in particular, the poor/working class people are more disadvantaged in the social structure, because they are denied the legitimate opportunities for achieving the societal goal. Therefore, the

working class people are more likely to engage in criminal activities than the rich. Also, Iwarimie-Jaja (1987:77) observed that 'there has been periods of anomie in the history of Nigeria', i.e. the history of political evolution which marked periods when relative normlessness or lawlessness existed in the whole or some parts of Nigeria, and there was a break in governance and the governing rules of the country, and intermittent irregularities existed. In those periods when anomie existed, some Nigerians capitalized on the lawless situation and committed all sorts of crime.

The Subcultural Theory

Albert K. Cohen's (1955) work on gang delinquency supports Merton's strain theory but differs in a way. Cohen emphasized that 'middle-class measuring rod' places lower class boys at a disadvantaged position; so that they find it difficult or impossible to meet the standards set by members of the middle class. As the lower class boys experience a strain, they formulate a delinquent subculture to be able to meet their aspirations and desires (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c:176). Therefore, since lower class boys are unable to acquire wealth/success which is an important or significant goal in society, they try to gain status among their peers by behaving according to the subculture of the group or gang. This results

in gang behaviour, violence and unruly behaviour and in all sorts of crime and delinquency.

Differential Opportunity Theory

Richard Cloward and Lloyd Ohlin (1960) reformulated Merton and Cohen's ideas, and argued that 'differential opportunity' is always in existence in the social structure of society, so if illegitimate opportunity structure is available, then, delinquent gangs will adopt illegitimate means to achieve status. The three delinquent subcultures identified by Cloward and Ohlin are: (1) the criminal subculture, (2) the violent subculture, and (3) the retreatist subculture. Cloward and Ohlin's (1960) subcultural assertions are observable in gang violent behaviour in Nigeria. These subcultural behaviours exist when legitimate means are blocked and people develop adjustment problems.

In Nigerian 'big' cities (e.g. Lagos and Port Harcourt) the criminal subculture exists, especially in the lower-class neighbourhoods, where there are the absence of correctional role models for successful ventures, but the presence and availability of criminal success models that creates the opportunities for illegitimate means to be used to attain cultural goals.

In these Nigerian 'big' cities, in slum areas (Ajegunle and Mushin in Lagos, and Diobu and Bundu-waterside in Port Harcourt) or areas that have become disorganized due to

instability or transiency. These areas have weak social controls and have no access to legitimate means. Such areas are identified by their failures and the use and manipulation of pent-up anger, frustrations and violence as the route to achieve status or success.

The retreatist subculture is the subculture of failures in both the criminal and conflict subcultures and the involvement in drugs in order to escape from life's difficulties. It is the limitations created by the societal structures of legitimate and illegitimate opportunities that confines people to retreatist subculture.

Social Learning Theories

The Theory of Imitation/Modeling

Before Edwin Sutherland's theory of differential association, Gabriel Tarde (1843-1904) had developed the theory of 'imitation' which asserts that people have the tendency to act as criminals when they imitate superiors, they admire and respect their criminal careers and criminal lifestyles (Tarde, 1962). Tarde did recognize that crime is learned by normal people as they adapt to their social environment, i.e., 'through imitation or modeling', a person learns the norms, values, techniques and behaviours associated with criminal activities (Siegel, 1992:225). In deed, the learning could be through observations made of others – who are criminals, without performing the overt act or

receiving direct instructions or reinforcement and rewards (Bohm and Haley, 2005:85).

Differential Association Theory

Edwin Sutherland's theory of differential association (1947) 'marked the watershed in Criminology'. It turned the field of Criminology into a new stage of understanding criminal behaviour. It diverted academic attention from biogenic and psychogenic causes of crime to 'a closer, systematic examination of social, environmental influences' (Hayes, 2005:394; Vold and Bernard, 1986). From the time of Sutherland's study, criminologists no longer focused on concepts such as 'social pathology', 'genetic inheritance, 'biological characteristics' and 'personality flaws' as factors that determined the process by which normal individuals acted in a criminal way (Schmalleger, 2009:300-301).

Sutherland's theory of differential association made significant impact in the field of Criminology because it became the first theoretical explanation of 'all types of crime' (Gibbons, 1975; Reid, 2000:153).

In essence, differential association theory defines the process in which a person or an individual will engage in criminal activities. The process begins only when the individual (the would-be criminal) acquires sentiments in favour of law violation that outweighs law abiding behaviour or anti-social criminal orientations. The would-be criminal, therefore, must adopt criminal as opposed to law abiding behaviour patterns by learning how to put them into action,

especially when the values are conducive to put that knowledge into practice. The knowledge is learned and not inherited, through inter-personal group interaction/relationship involving a process of communications, direction of motives, drives, rationalizations and attitudes. The knowledge gained by differential association varies in frequency, duration, priority and intensity (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012C:152-153).

Differential Identification Theory

The theory of differential association has attracted a great deal of interest. For example, Daniel Glaser (1956) modified the differential association theory by introducing the concept of role. He argues that criminal behaviour is learned by identifying with criminal roles rather than by criminal association. Thus, a person can become a criminal by imitating and playing the role of a burglar without actually having to personally interact with a person who is an actual burglar. In his differential identification theory, Daniel Glaser affirms that a person pursues criminal behaviour by identifying himself with real or imaginary persons whose criminal behaviour patterns seem acceptable to him or her (Glaser, 1999:146). What is important is the symbolic process of identification, and not the frequency or the intensity of associations between the would-be criminals and the criminal-role persons.

Previous Criminal Association

Iwarimie-Jaja (1999) also modified the theory of differential association into the theory of Previous Criminal Association. The theory of Previous Criminal Association 'explains the process that are involved when a juvenile or a young person who has been involved in delinquency or has been associated with delinquent gangs or friends, and /or has been processed through the Nigerian Criminal Justice System, and has continued to commit delinquency until he becomes an adult, or even stops his delinquent acts or association with delinquent or criminal friends, but suddenly begins to commit crime when he reaches adult age' (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c:157). The theory has the following propositions:

- (i) Delinquency and criminal behaviour are learned from past delinquent and criminal experiences, respectively. These past delinquent and criminal experiences are acquired over time and involves learning the techniques of committing the act, avoiding detection, using intimidation, psychological projections, and the proper instrument to achieve success.
- (ii) Delinquent and criminal patterns of life styles are not individualistic. They do not pertain to the individual. They are based on collective delinquent and criminal experiences which form subcultures of the delinquent

and criminal gangs. Thus, delinquency and crime are functions of the goals associated with gang station or place in human social life cycle.

- (iii) Delinquent and criminal associations involve interaction with delinquent and criminal play-mates, contact with recidivists when arrested and prosecuted by law enforcement agents, during which there is the formation of delinquent and criminal values.
- (iv) Delinquency and criminal associations may vary in frequency, duration, priority, and intensity.
- (v) Delinquency and criminal behaviours are reflections of an individual's or group's needs and values. An individual may use delinquent and criminal ways to obtain those things that are of value and which meet his desired needs, just as another individual or group may adopt legitimate means to acquire things of value which are also desirable to him, but these general needs and values do not explain anti-social behaviour (Iwarimie-Jaja, 1999:56-57; 2012:158).

Differential Association Reinforcement Theory

Robert Burgess and Ronald L. Akers (1966) expanded Sutherland's theory of differential association by adding the idea of reinforcement – a concept derived from psychology. The theory assumes that criminal behaviour may be learned, strengthened and encouraged by positively reinforcing the

act through a reward system. They also, proposed that criminal behaviour may be reinforced by negative reinforcement of the act through punishment – actual punishment or positive punishment. Thus, Akers (1985:40-41) concludes that criminal behaviour is learned through the principles of operant conditioning which implies that criminal behaviour is shaped ‘by specific stimuli and responses or reaction of others to that behaviour’.

Conflict Theory

The works of Karl Marx and Fredrick Engels (1964) led to a deterministic view for understanding and explaining criminal behaviour from a social structural standpoint. It is understood from their works that crime is the inevitable and the by-product of capitalist societies. This is because the social structure of capitalist societies are characterized by social class conflict which is the consequences of competition, exploitation, alienation, oppression and socio-economic and political inequalities. The non-ownership of property or the means of production results in poverty, which is capable of driving people to commit crime. In other words, the capitalist economic system breeds all sorts of crime because it creates the ‘haves’ and have nots’ or the ‘bourgeoisie’, the privileged, and the ‘proletariat’, the deprived, who have the historical tendency to struggle to improve their economic and political positions.

In every capitalist society, the 'have nots' are not in equal standing with the 'haves'. Power and socio-economic resources are unequally distributed in capitalist societies. The 'haves' or the 'bourgeoisie', control power and resources and dominate the 'have nots' - the 'proletariat'. The 'haves' define behaviours that are not in their interest as crime (Vold, 1985), in order to criminalize the 'have nots' and make them subservient. They also, criminalize behaviours that are the product of direct contact or interaction between groups struggling to control political power of the state. They are the group in power, that make laws (criminal law) and controls the criminal justice system to protect their group interest, and dominate the subordinate group. Unfortunately, the public is not aware that this is so. The public regard the criminal law and the criminal justice system as 'value-neutral institutions' that are only concerned with 'fair' and 'just' treatment of the defendant and plaintiff, and wants to settle their disputes on the basis of 'winner-takes all'.

Conflict theoretical analysis has shown that criminals and non-criminals are not necessarily different. The only difference is in the ways they are handled and treated by society. The society, particularly, the law and the criminal justice system may react to their behaviour differently. For example, if an upper class person (or the 'bourgeoisie') embezzles billions of Naira meant to be used for a building

construction project for the state government, he may never be tried in court, let alone, be convicted and imprisoned. But if a hungry poor homeless adult steals food from a departmental store, he may be processed, and prosecuted, convicted and sentenced to a term of imprisonment.

Labelling Theory

In Nigeria, Labelling theory is an accepted theoretical explanation of criminal behaviour. It explains societal reaction to deviance (i.e. crime and delinquency). The theory asserts that people who become criminals are acting based on the 'principle of self fulfilling prophecy'. It also opines that given the types of social situations in which people may find themselves, their behaviour may be defined, identified, tagged and described as deviant (delinquent or criminal) which may provoke and evoke social reactions and control.

Under the labeling categorization, crime is regarded as the breaking of law which identifies and defines the criminal and separates him from the non-criminal; or the delinquent from non-delinquent. The label tagged on a person as a criminal signifies his or her social status which defines the way the person 'is perceived, evaluated and treated by legal authorities' (Eitzen, 1980:398).

Labelling studies have established that:

- (i) Initial acts of deviance called primary deviance, that violate societal norms are not readily regarded significant by the deviant actor.
- (ii) Repeated misconducts called secondary deviance, which the deviant actor recognizes as behaviours that fit his or her deviant role, calls for societal reaction – criminalization and leads to the individual’s acceptance of the deviant role status.
- (iii) Societies reactions to unacceptable behaviour leads to ‘self-fulfilling prophecy’ which is the cause of crime. By labeling the rule breaker as deviant or criminal push the individual further into the direction of committing deviance or crime.
- (iv) Deviance is the outcome of social processes involving the imposition of negative definitions of tags.
- (v) Stigmatization is a process of stereotyping an individual based on perceived cues the police and other members of the public observes about the person’s anti-social behaviour.
- (vi) A person is identified as a deviant through retrospective interpretation of his past misconducts and his new identity reflects what he has always been all along.
- (vii) Negotiation on the behaviour of the deviant actor and plea-bargaining to reach an agreement on what

- specific label to be placed on him or her in the police station or courts helps to identify his or her status.
- (viii) Negative self-images is the outcome of the formal criminal justice system that further leads to self-fulfilling prophecy and subsequent acts of serious deviant/criminal acts.
 - (ix) Labeling by society and handling by the justice system compound the problem of the labellees to perpetuate crime rather than cause it to reduce (Garfinkel, 1956:421-422; Schur, 1973:120-126; Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c:171-173).

Social Control Theory

Earlier proponents (e.g. Reiss, 1951; Reckless, 1956) of social control theory agree that a positive image of people makes them resist temptations to deviate or to commit crime and delinquency (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c:188). Thus, Reiss (1951) asserts that poor, bad or negative attitude or image results in weak ego ideals and lack personal inner-control to conform to societal rules and laws in order not to deviate or commit crime and delinquency. Reckless (1956) also, contends that individuals who have not developed insulators (ego strength or a sufficient positive self-esteem) are likely not to conform to societal rules, laws and regulations. Such persons lack a strong self-image, and cannot effectively battle with internal

and external pressures as well as external pulls in order not to commit crime and delinquency.

The theory of social control is a popular theory of controlling deviance, crime and delinquency in the field of Criminology. The emphasis of the social control theory is also to apply any process that can limit or contain the actions of individuals or groups that do not conform to societal values and norms. Human behaviour requires some restraint in order that the society will be smoothly run with less threat to life and property. To achieve a high degree of social control requires proper or adequate socialization process.

On modern social control theory, Travis Hirschi (1969) has made a significant impact with his current criminological insights. Hirschi has argued that delinquent behaviour is the product of improper socialization. According to him, lack of proper socialization establishes a weak moral bond between the individual and society. Therefore, a strong moral societal bond is required to control delinquency and crime.

However, delinquent and criminal behaviours are most likely to develop in the following basic environmental conditions: (1) where inadequate attachment to others, especially to parents, schools and religious authorities exist, (2) where inadequate commitment to conventional lines of action, especially to educational and occupational success exist, (3) where inadequate involvement in

conventional activities (such as scouting, sports and recreational) exist, and (4) where inadequate belief exist in the legitimacy and morality of the law.

Studies which apply the social control theory reveal that the establishment of a strong bond between individuals and society is the basic responsibilities of the family, the school and the law. Therefore, ineffective child-rearing behaviour results in low self-control, which can negate people's ability to determine the consequences of their actions. This is noticeable in people who are impulsive, insensitive, shortsighted and prone to physical risk-taking, and poor in verbal skills. People with low self-control are mostly predisposed to crime and delinquency (Gottfredson and Hirschi, 1990; Bohm and Haley, 2005:88).

CRIME CONTROL IN NIGERIA

Reactions to Crime

In Nigeria, generally, a victim's reaction to crime inflicted on him is appalling. Most times, crimes are not reported by victims to law enforcement agents, and no action whatsoever is taken. Occasionally, a concerned group of citizens may report to the police, or resort to jungle justice by lynching or publicly executing the criminal. This is unacceptable, of course, and criminologists refer to it as gross inhumanity to man, at the expense of true law and justice per due process.

Crime Control by Law Enforcement Agencies

Law enforcement agencies, particularly, the police, the courts and correctional facilities (e.g. prisons) coordinate their 'principal functions of prevention, detection, investigation of crime and the apprehension and prosecution of alleged offenders', which all ultimately end in the confinement of convicted persons (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c:454). Despite the coordination of their functions, there has been relatively limited success of crime control and prevention efforts by the police.

Crime Control by the Police

The police is ineffective in crime control activities in Nigeria due to various factors which include inadequate manpower, corruption, indiscipline, poor logistics, inadequate training, poor motivation, insufficient supply of arms and ammunitions (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2005:64; Onyeozili, 2005:51 and Soyombo, 2009:20).

The public lacks the will to give information that may lead to the arrest of criminals. Indeed, crime control and prevention efforts in Nigeria have been hampered by police inconsistent application of the law. The police exhibits much discretionary power in making arrests, and in prosecuting offenders, especially when the case involves different categories of persons – the 'haves' and the 'have-nots'. When it involves people highly placed and powerful in and outside of government, it can be frustrating.

The Nigerian Police is often involved in technical issues that do not allow them to effectively control and prevent crime. In some instances, the police do not have reasonable ground nor do they have a warrant to search and make seizure. Sometimes, when they do have an authorized warrant, they make an arrest and detain a person longer than is necessary. Also, the arrest that the police make is backed up with the use of extra-legal force, even when the suspect or offender is not in any way resisting arrest. The police have also been accused of tampering with evidence seized in the execution of a search warrant. Sometimes, the police may be involved in the planting of criminal evidence in order to incriminate a person and even reveal the identity of a suspect who is placed in the police line-up and identification parade (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c:519-521). This negates justice and crime control in Nigeria.

Problems of the Police

The problems facing the Nigerian Police Force have hindered crime-control and prevention efforts. The police is under funded and lack sophisticated communication, detective and investigation equipment. There is also the lack of mutual relationship between superior and subordinate officers and this slows down police work performance. It is not in doubt that the police experience the problem of manpower given that presently, the areas they cover has more than 160 million people. The police also faces an additional problem of acute shortage of accommodation and accoutrement, including logistics and not being able to 'retain well, qualified men on the job' or to get well qualified

men to join the force' (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c:467-470). These problems have hindered the crime control efforts of the Nigeria Police Force.

Sentencing disparity

The courts have also made efforts to control and prevent crime by attempting to be seen to follow justice. However, their efforts have been thwarted by lack of judicial independence and interference from various interested quarters in the adjudication of disputes, and trial of criminal offenders.

Sentencing disparity among judges in courts of different and similar jurisdictions have contributed immensely to the flaws in crime control and prevention efforts. When judges apply different penalties for the same offenses, or when judges impose different penalties on similarly situated offenders who commit identical offense, offenders become aware that, for a particular offense they intend to commit, the judge will consider various factors which may cause them to be acquitted and discharged or sentenced to minimal jail term. These factors are known as extra legal factors. Examples include gender, age, socio-economic and political status, prior criminal records and current type of offense whether violent or non-violent, personal or property crimes.

Problems of the Court

The Nigerian criminal courts are inundated with various kinds of problems that cause ineffectiveness in the control and prevention of crime. These problems include (1) underfunding, (2) politics, (3) State granted immunity, and (4) excessive backlog of cases.

(i) Underfunding of Courts or the Judiciary

The underfunding of the judiciary has dogged and bastardized the system of law administration to the extent that there has been depreciation in infrastructure, scholarship and integrity, and judges and magistrates consider bribe money and corrupt practices as the means to an end. The judiciary has continued to ask the executive for more funding (in budgetary allocations) for its upkeep (i.e. the maintenance of its structures, payment of salaries and the emoluments for court personnel (including judges, magistrates and all administrative staff).

(ii) Politics

In modern Nigeria, judges and magistrates pretend not to be supporters of political parties and not to be involved in politics. It is not proper that judges and other judicial officers (e.g. magistrates) are involved in politics because it erodes and corrupts their judicial

independence. Judges involved in politics and who support political parties pass decisive judgements 'in favour of a ruling party, and judicial membership of political parties' (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2006c:79).

(iii) **Immunity**

State Immunity is an official exemption from prosecution granted to a caliber of government official when they fall foul with the law. The reason for this is avoidance of possible embarrassment to government. Unfortunately, the privilege of State Immunity has often been abused (Osipitan, 2005:10), and Judges and Magistrates who commit serious lapses in the performance of their duties escape sanctions or punishment due to judicial immunity (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2006c:77).

(iv) **Excessive backlog of Cases**

The courts of the Nigerian Judicial System are plagued with a huge back-log of cases, due to the following:

- (a) Acute shortage of qualified judges and magistrates for various reasons.
- (b) Probable incompetence and laziness of most of the available professional staff.

The immediate consequence of this is that the able and efficient are grossly over-worked while the incompetent and lazy fail to dispose of their cases promptly. The overall result:

- (a) Some offenders are granted bail, and allowed, without any control, to go back into society, probably to continue the criminal profession until they are called up for trial.
- (b) Some other offenders are placed in prison custody to await eventual trial, meanwhile perfecting their expertise under mature apprenticeship of hardened and more seasoned offenders. The whole situation is appalling, unjustifiable and inexcusable.

Crime Control by the Prisons

The Nigerian government applies the institutional measure of the Social Control Theory of punishment of criminal offenders. A controversial institutional social control measure used to punish criminal offenders in Nigeria, is imprisonment or execution, intended to totally control the movement and behaviour of criminal offenders. Prisons in Nigeria are categorized into three confinement institutions: Maximum, Medium and Minimum security prisons. These prisons are surrounded by high walls which are topped with razored wires and guarded by armed correctional officers (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2011:522-526).

The Nigerian prisons are 'total institutions'(Goffman, 1961); they are miniature societies of their own right, and

separates inmates from the visible sights of the public. The aim of the Nigerian prisons (Kirikiri Security Prisons) is to restrict all inmates activities without their personal consent and to drastically resocialize them by placing them on designed activities to ensure they are rehabilitated and can change from their criminal behaviour and conform to acceptable standard of behaviour.

In these prisons called the 'closed society' prisons authorities teach inmates new skills and morals through therapeutic counseling to help them become 'good' citizens when eventually released into society. Most current studies applying the social control theory focus on prisons and prisoners' behaviour and recidivism. However, the Nigerian prisons have not been an effective and efficient means of crime-control and prevention.

Prison Problems

The Nigerian prisons have encountered several problems that have negated its function of crime control and prevention. The prisons are underfunded, over-crowded and there have been intermittent jail-breaks. There are also, the inadequate educational, recreational and health facilities.

The lack of control of illegal substances especially marijuana, heroine or hard drugs and the collaboration of prisons officials in importing these illegal substances have made the prisons dens for continued learning of criminal

behaviour rather than centers for control and eradication of crime.

Prisoners have been abused by both inmates and prisons officials. Homosexuality and lesbianism are practised. Inmates are frustrated because they are abused physically and emotionally. The gross inadequacy of living essentials (e.g. food, water, space and toiletries) causes enough frustration that can restrain them from turning their 'bad' behaviour to 'good' behaviour.

Other Government Agencies

Other government agencies that perform some form of law enforcement functions include the customs, the immigration services, the Economic and Financial Crime Commission, the Independent Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences Commission, the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency and the Federal Road Safety Commission. These government agencies are underfunded, and lack adequate logistics, and training. Corruption cuts across these government agencies and, often, when they take offenders to court, especially the members of the privileged class, they lose their cases in court for manipulated lack of evidence.

Non-Governmental Agency

Vigilantes

Vigilante measures have been adopted by people of different communities in Nigeria to combat and fight crime. The vigilantes are people who are mostly youths, and adult persons, who organize themselves into an unofficial group to control any form of social misbehaviour, and to protect their communities from the nefarious and heinous acts of criminals, apprehend and bring them to justice.

The overwhelming feeling of insecurity of life and property, and the fear of becoming victims have motivated citizens and residents of various communities in the states of the federation to galvanise themselves into vigilante groups to fight the problems of lawlessness – ‘a situation near-total absence of governmental protection in which a person or group of persons feel helpless and dehumanized by acts that threaten life, law, and order’ (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012a:7). Sometimes, the vigilantes follow due process of the law in order to control and prevent crime by apprehending the suspects and handing them over to the police for prosecution, conviction, and sentencing. But often, due process of law is not adhered to, and the vigilantes simply adopt extra-judicial measures of jungle justice and lynch the offenders, mainly because they believe in compensatory punishment of tit-for-tat (an eye for an eye). Unfortunately, vigilante efforts all over Nigeria have not drastically reduced

crime, such as armed robbery, because armed robbers now operate in large groups of ten or more persons with sophisticated weapons. What is not definitely known to the public is that some members of vigilante groups are informants to the underworld criminals.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Crime reduction and control in Nigeria

Criminologists in Nigeria have made significant contributions on how crime can be drastically reduced. Soyombo (2009) suggests that the Nigerian society should adopt the 'principles of social welfare' and 'social responsibility' to control crime. This implies improved range of social services (such as potable water, quality education and health care; motorable roads, decent accommodation, and electricity), provided by the government to resolve anomalies or social problems suffered by individuals, groups and communities, in order to enhance societal well-being. Although, these may not be provided free, they could be 'heavily' subsidized by the government to make them affordable and accessible to the people. Social welfare is a 'safety net' of access to certain essential services and facilities that will give needy people some support, and lift them out of poverty and channel them away from crime, to decency.

Soyombo (2009) further concedes to the idea of social responsibility – that the state or government as well as

organizations or companies and individuals need to support the society or community where they carry out thriving business operations. Social responsibility is a voluntary act. It is not imposed by law, but a 'proactive gesture' that helps to improve the quality of living conditions of people, and reduce their motivation and inclination to commit crime.

Crime reduction is a collective responsibility. Soyombo (2009) suggests that:

- (i) There should be the re-examination of family life and child upbringing practices.
- (ii) Religious and educational institutions should rejuvenate our moral behavioural standards. Moral rejuvenation or revival is important in the society.
- (iii) There is a need for higher security awareness or consciousness raising.
- (iv) There is need for community participation in, or public support for police activities.
- (v) Recruitment of more police officers to about 312, 000 police personnel to about 140 million people (or in the ratio of 1:448) together with the improvement of the working conditions and remuneration of all law-enforcement officers.
- (vi) A review of Nigerian laws to remove legal impediments to successful prosecution of suspects/criminals, and legal loopholes which make it possible for suspects to escape conviction.

- (vii) There should be government guarantee of the security of life and property of the citizens, and the enhancement of the capacity of the police to tackle crime.
- (viii) Government should in addition to the societal voluntary contributions, strengthen its Poverty Alleviation Programmes and enhance opportunities for skills acquisition and recreational activities for the youths to take their minds away from criminal activities.
- (x) Exemplary life of leaders, which should be above board through abhorring corruption, in order to morally justify themselves to condemn crime and to pursue justice.

A foremost and front-line Nigerian criminologist, Professor Femi Odekunle contends that reducing crime to a level of normality requires adequate 'planning for crime prevention and control in the context of development planning'. Such adequate plans will remove the 'mismanagement of the crime-producing contradictions' observable 'within each of the subsystems and between the subsystems of the whole of the criminal justice system, right from the substantive and procedural laws, through policing and law enforcement, to justice administration and offender – correction'. In other words, the Nigerian criminal justice apparatus, or system, must be swift and fair to all cases or

matters. In the operations of each of the subsystems and within each subsystem, there should be no delay in the administration of justice. The police should be involved in speedy and accurate investigations to hasten the trial of cases, and avoid delay and denial of justice. Criminal law or penal (or decree) should be comprehensible, not only to lawyers, but to everyone. Petty offences or crimes should be settled through victims' compensation, restitution and reconciliation in order not to over-crowd the police cells and prisons with 'remand to await trial', and the convicted offenders who need rehabilitation (Odekunle, 1985:14-16).

Firmly stated, Odekunle (1985) avers that to prevent and control crime in Nigeria, there should be the actualization of the development plan objectives in order to (1) be just egalitarian society, (2) reduce inequalities in interpersonal incomes, (3) correct defective existing social relations in various spheres of production, distribution and exchange, (4) minimize the existing inequalities in wealth, income and consumption levels, (5) equitably spread the benefits of economic development and reduce the level of unemployment and underemployment, (6) increase the participation of citizens in the ownership and management of productive enterprises, and (7) balance development between urban and rural areas (Odekunle, 1985:18).

Yet another foremost and front-line Nigerian criminologist, Professor Etannibi EO. Alemika, suggests 'a

transformation of the Nigerian criminal justice system' in order to control and reduce crime. The process would involve the 'transformation of the legislative philosophy' and which should be executed by the Nigerian Law Reform Commission and the legal institutions, and also, the law should be democratic. 'Criminal prohibitions' involving certain offences of a 'victimless nature' should be 'decriminalised' to avoid their turning into 'sources of police harassment and corruption'. The legislature should enact laws to guarantee judicial independence, in reference to interferences, 'funding, appointment, promotion and discipline'. There should be a coherent philosophy, and policies in the use of the criminal law and processes, to avoid 'punishing the accused before trial' and 'warehousing the convicts and suspects' in the statutory prisons centers which will negate the objectives of fair and just treatment of offenders. There should also be 'the transformation of the Nigerian Adjudication system' (i.e. the courts) in terms of re-orientation and provision of current legal education and practices to encourage 'constructive interpretation of laws', and 'to enhance the substance and process of justice in the country'. The 'anti-corruption and judicial integrity measures' designed for the judiciary under the former Chief Justice of Nigeria (Justice ML Uwais) should be adopted in order to 'enhance dispensation of justice', and to avoid

discrediting the judicial system at both the federal and state levels (Alemika, 2006).

Further, Alemika has also suggested the transformation of the Nigeria Police force as well as the reformation of the Nigeria prisons. According to him, the police can be reformed when the political economy of the nation has been transformed. Since the police lacks legitimacy, performance and integrity, it can be transformed through changes and innovations in the area of developing a national philosophy and framework of policing that conforms to the 1999 Constitution. The adoption of the idea and practice of police-community partnership is essential to transform the Nigeria Police to enable it become pro-active to concerns of security and safety (Alemika, 2006).

Regarding the Nigerian prison which has been described as 'a hell on earth' (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012c) or 'a house of horror' (Ilega, 1999), Alemika (2006) opines that the specific reforms for transforming the prisons should include:

- (i) Change of name from the Nigeria Prisons Service to the Nigeria Prisons and Correctional Service, to reflect the dual concern of the institution as a humane custodial and correctional services provider – meaning it provides educational, vocational, counseling and treatment services to inmates.
- (ii) The goals of the Nigeria Prisons and Correctional Service (NPCS) (if so named) should be to secure

society from dangerous offenders and to train, reform and rehabilitate offenders so that they can be released into society as citizens capable of free and lawful participation in their community's social, political and economic activities.

- (iii) The functions of the Nigeria Prisons and Correctional Service (if so named) should be enlarged to include: (a) humane and safe custody of persons convicted or remanded by a competent court with valid warrant of committal, (b) provision of vocational and educational training for inmates, (c) provision of religious or spiritual, medical, psychological and counseling services, (d) establishment and management of prison industries and farms (for purposes of training inmates in appropriate skills and work habits, engagement of inmates in meaningful work, fair income by inmates and generation of revenue by the prison), (e) promotion and guarantee of contacts and relationships between prisoners/awaiting trial inmates and their relations and friends in society, (f) provision of rehabilitation and after-care services designed to assist in the reintegration of the inmates into society, and (g) any such functions as may be prescribed by the National Assembly (Alemika, 2006:36-37).

The postulations by Nigeria's foremost and front-line criminologists pertaining to crime-problems and how to reduce their trends and effects on citizens are profound. As criminologists, we accept Durkheim's proposition that crime is a normal phenomenon in society and, therefore, we know

that no proposed solution to Nigeria's crime-situation can completely eliminate crime.

It is my view that whatever solution that a criminologist proffers to resolve Nigeria's crime-problem that Nigeria will not be 'a crime-free society'. This is because 'crime is normal' and has both 'manifest and latent functions' (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2005:61). Crime cannot be eliminated, but can be reduced through a realistic and practical way as proffered by Odekunle (1985), Iwarimie-Jaja (2005), Alemika (2006) and Soyombo (2009).

Vice Chancellor, Sir, solutions have been offered for crime reduction and control. Any meaningful solution or future government policy on crime reduction must involve education, job creation, and corruption management. These three strategies reinforce themselves to achieve crime reduction, and control as follows:

Education

The most worrisome, violent and life-threatening crime problem in Nigeria is committed by youths within the ages of 18 and 35 years. Most of them are uneducated and jobless. The reformation of these lies in:

- (i) Financial aid and scholarship support to eligible youths (in the age bracket of 18 to 35 years) to further their education.
- (ii) Financial support for youths (who are not interested in furthering their education) to be trained and taught vocational skills or trade.

- (iii) Orientation courses to guide and influence them to shun violence and corruption and accept due process to honorably achieve their objectives in life. The overall effect of the education / orientation strategy is to take the youths off the streets of violence, crime, and change their value system to one that is acceptable by the society.

Job Creation

Job creation should be a continuous program. There is nothing as frustrating as being unemployed after graduation from school or vocational training. For the youths, this is devastating. It makes them begin to feel that they are failures. Government should have jobs readily available for youths that have graduated from any educational training, profession or trade. This would make them believe that education/training in any trade or field of endeavour is the guaranteed way of getting a job and making it in life. It must be noted that this has been the general belief of youths before the civil war in Nigeria, and its restoration would reduce cultism in schools as youths would no longer need to join cults in order to have a job after graduation.

Corruption Management

Youths are affected by what they see and judge as advantageous to them. They can also react against the same thing and use their reaction as a justification for doing something that is of interest and benefit to them. For example, youths can indulge in corruption because they can make money from it. The same youths can react against corruption by engaging in oil-bunkering to enrich themselves.

Corruption has caused untold hardship to Nigerians. Youths can use violent crime and armed robbery as a justified reaction to corruption with the satisfied sense of justice and retribution. For this reason, our corruption management policy should be strict and tough enough to reduce corruption to the barest minimum. To deter people from engaging in corrupt practices, the corruption management policy should include the following:

- (i) If a government official is accused of corruption, he must immediately step down from office to allow investigation to commence.
- (ii) If the fraudulent act is obvious and supported by enough evidence or proof beyond reasonable doubt, he should be sacked immediately and made to lose all official privileges within 48 hours of discovery of the act.

- (iii) He should face a special tribunal for speedy trial of cases of corrupt practices.
- (iv) The maximum duration of the trial, including delivery of judgement for a corruption case, should be 3 months (with effect from the date of arraignment).
- (v) The maximum period for the trial of a complicated corruption case should be no more than 6 months from the date of arraignment by the prosecution.
- (vi) The trial should be televised.
- (vii) Those acquitted should be reinstated to their former position and compensated for damages suffered.
- (viii) Those found guilty should be publicly disgraced and made to serve the sentence prescribed by law.

These measures should stem the tide of corruption in Nigeria.

Furthermore, let it be known that crime control in Nigeria has been a difficult task, simply because government have been narrow minded and legalistic in the manner the issue of crime is defined, adjudged and handled by the criminal justice system. There has been no coordinating body for the management of crime control and crime problems, especially in terms of planning, prevention and control. The absence of such a body has given rise to selective enforcement of the law and treatment of offenders.

Mr. Vice Chancellor, Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen, this is why I suggest here that Nigeria should reform its criminal

justice system. Nigeria requires a more professionalized system of criminal justice that would be corruption-free, regularly retrained, equitably remunerated for service, efficient and effective in crime-control and prevention.

The police, when restructured should become a humanistic police system that should police itself and police the society. A force that would be proactive and strike hard on crime, using community policing approach, and have a three-tier system of organization: Federal, State and Local Government system (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2005:63). The Federal Police should still have responsibility that cuts across States, Local and Federal Capital Territory (FCT). The State Police should be responsible for centralized functions within individual states, while the Local Police should basically function within the Local Government Areas (LGAs), municipalities and major cities (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2012b:6).

Also, the courts and correctional facility, when restructured should obey the law of the land. The enforcement of law, and legal procedure should be based on due process of law. These government institutions should respect human rights. Duplication of functions should be avoided, especially those of the law enforcement agencies. These government institutions should be independent in their respective functions. There should be no interference in (1) the processes of crime-control and prevention of criminal activities, (2) the making and promulgation of laws by the legislatures, and (3) the enforcement of criminal law

(i.e. in its application to prevent crime, detect crime, and investigate crime and criminals, or in the detention of criminal suspects and in the prosecution of criminal suspects) and in the execution of legal or court orders and sentences. If respect for institutional jurisdiction should exist in Nigeria, then, structural loop-holes for more crimes will not exist. Convicted felons should be correctionally treated, rehabilitated and reformed.

Ladies and gentlemen of the academia, my distinguished colleagues and my respected audience, let me remind you that reforming/restructuring the Nigerian criminal justice system is to introduce democracy and neighbourliness into the Police, the courts and correctional institutions, where communities would assist in policing the society to ensure that crime is reduced and controlled. Neighbourliness grows in the mind – human consciousness, and if we can visualize such a criminal justice system for our great country, Nigeria, and every hand is brought on deck to actualize it, then crime will be drastically reduced in Nigeria. Let us begin now to put things right, and there will be absence of crimogenic and criminogenic conditions, and Nigeria will experience less crime, more security and fewer incidents of the tragic consequences of crime.

CONCLUSIONS

Mr. Vice Chancellor, Sir, you will agree with me, though you are an engineer, that this inaugural lecture is extensive, and detailed. It brings into focus the general ideas and

knowledge of the field of Criminology, and posits the current evaluation and rating of Criminology in Nigeria. It makes suggestions, provides basic rationalizations and draws relevant references from my earlier works to demonstrate my area of specialization and profession. As a criminologist, surveying the environment enables me to scrutinize critically, and scientifically, the complexities of crime and its related facets, in order for me to make relevant and startling discoveries.

If I have been rhetorical in my presentation, it is because governments have refused to accept and use my ideas. Perhaps as some cynics may say ‘we have heard this before’, ‘this is virtually impossible’. But how many times has the ‘first professor of Criminology’, Professor Femi Odekunle suggested measures for crime-control in this country and government heard him and implemented his ideas? Odekunle (1981, 1982 and 1985) has suggested the ‘reduction in the use of prisons as model correctional Institutions’, and the ‘establishment of a National Commission for Crime-Prevention and Control’ (Odekunle, 1985) and Iwarimie-Jaja (1986, 2006b and 2012b) suggested the transformation of the Nigeria Police Force into a ‘democratic’ or ‘State Police’ and up till now these suggestions have been ignored because cynics think that politicians will use them as stooges.

However, let me finally conclude here that Criminology is a pleasant and fascinating field of study. It focuses on

problems that are related to human life, crime, and delinquency, including the victims of crime and his society, and the institutions that deal with the offshoots of crime and specifically, the management, treatment and administration of criminal offenders and the institutions of criminal justice - the legislature, the law enforcement agencies, the prisons and juvenile institutions - the remand homes and approved schools.

Criminology has developed in Nigeria. It has been born, nurtured, and it is now maturing. It will live and grow into a department of its own and age into being accepted as an interdisciplinary field in Nigeria. The number of criminologists and curious enthusiast will increase, and spread into different areas of human endeavour. There will be more teaching of Criminology by academicians who will concentrate on scholarly researches and produce results in books, journals and periodicals by the middle of the 21st century. The number of techno-criminologists will also increase tremendously in government and non-government parastatals. The body of knowledge on criminological issues and theories formulated from research results and publications (for teaching and training interested persons in the field of Criminology and criminal justice) will increase. There will be abundant literature on basic social, ethical, and political conflict issues relating to crime and delinquency. Criminology in Nigeria will focus on the understanding of

the historical, philosophical, legal, behavioural, psychological, economic, political and social dimension of crime and its related facets. It will also explore the causes or etiology, prevention, control and treatment of crime and delinquency including the criminal and the victims of crime. Concerted efforts will be made to also examine, explore, and improve the Nigerian criminal law as well as the legal processes and procedures employed by law enforcement, prosecutorial, judicial and correctional instrumentalities (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2006a:2 and 2006b:155-156).

This inaugural lecture holds that the origin of crime is the genesis of Criminology in Nigeria. The deliberate, indiscriminate breaking of rules gave rise to crime and their 'labels' and, consequently, to the institutionalization of mechanisms for check-mating crime and criminals. As a follow-up, matters of crime became a subject for study, first by social scientists amongst whom were sociologists; then later, primarily by criminologists who developed interest in the study of crime and delinquency, and the criminal justice system.

Criminology has not been properly consolidated in Nigeria, but efforts are being made by Nigerian criminologists, under the aegis of the Nigerian Society of Criminology, to validate and consolidate it.

There are more courses in Criminology taught now in Nigerian Universities than before the 20th century. More

techno-Criminologists are being produced, and they will become researchers and technocrats, and be found in other different fields of study and institutions.

The need for the establishment of an institute of Criminology is very important for research and control of crime and delinquency and regulation of the profession. Nigeria will benefit enormously from such an institute of Criminology and Security Studies in the near future, especially if it is affiliated to government institutions and foreign bodies on matters relating to crime and security in Nigeria. At present, Professor Darlington Iwarimie-Jaja has made a proposal for the establishment of a Centre for Criminology and Security Studies (CCSS) at the University of Port Harcourt. The CCSS will provide adequate knowledge and practical skills for dealing with issues relating to crime and security challenges. The knowledge CCSS produces will contribute to crime-control and prevention in Nigeria, and internationally.

Mr. Vice Chancellor, Sir, I have concluded my inaugural lecture, but please permit me to register my appreciation of this opportunity, by thanking everyone present today including my associates, colleagues, friends, staff, students and relatives who have come to honour me with their presence. I am grateful for their patience in listening attentively, and making this inaugural lecture an eventful occasion.

Thank you all for listening, and remain blessed in Jesus' name.

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CITATION ON



PROFESSOR DARLINGTON IWARIMIE-JAJA
[B.Sc., M.A (U.S.A), Ph.D. (Uniport)]

Birth and Education

On the 16th of September, 1954, in Port Harcourt Local Government Area in Rivers State, Professor Darlington Iwarimie-Jaja was born to the family of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Enyina Iwarimie-Jaja. His father was an Architect and the first town clerk of Port Harcourt. His mother was a contractor. Professor Darlington Iwarimie-Jaja is the first son of three children. He is very fond with his elder sister, a psychologist, and younger brother, an Architect. Professor Iwarimie-Jaja is a Christian. He is married and has four children.

Professor Darlington Iwarimie-Jaja had his early education in Port Harcourt, Rivers State. He had and completed his Nursery and Primary education at Baptist Day School and Township School II (Now State Primary School) from 1956 to 1959, and 1960 to 1965, with distinction at both levels. He obtained his secondary education at Baptist High School and passed his West African School Certificate examination with Grade 2 in 1975. His best subjects were English, History and Mathematics. In 1976, Professor Iwarimie-Jaja gained admission into Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, Tennessee 38501, USA, to study for the Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology with specialization in Criminal Justice and graduated in June 1980. In 1981, he gained admission to further his education at the famous John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York and graduated with an M.A. degree in Criminal Justice in 1982 with honours (Lambda Alpha Epsilon-ACJA-LAE).

Work/Career Experience

Professor Darlington Iwarimie-Jaja began his career as a social worker with the Department of Human Resources, Special Services for Children, Bronx, New York, U.S.A. from 1980- 1982 after serving as an intern (1978 — 1979) with the Algood Police, Algood, Tennessee 38501, U.S.A. He, later, served in the various Departments/Units of the Ministry of Social Welfare, including the Juvenile Probation Unit, Port Harcourt (Remand) Welfare Home, and the Port Harcourt Approved School in Rivers State, Nigeria (1982-1983). He, later, was employed as a part time lecturer and secured

permanent job as an assistant lecturer in 1986 in the department of sociology, faculty of social sciences, University of Port Harcourt, where he rose through the ranks to a professor.

Post Qualification-Professional Experience

Professor Iwarimie-Jaja has over twenty five years of continuous teaching and research experience which also involves administrative experience. He has taught courses cutting across the disciplines of Law (Nigerian Legal System, Law and Administration in Nigeria), Sociology (Sociology of Law, Social Stratification, Social Mobility and Social Inequality), Criminology (Sociology of Crime and Delinquency, Deviant Behaviour, Victimology), Criminal Justice (Administration of Criminal Justice, Treatment of Offenders), Police Science (Police in a Political System, Policing the Society) and Social Work (Advanced Social Work Theories, Social Work Legislations). He has also carried out researches in the area of Sociology, Social Work, Criminology and Criminal Justice. He has held various administrative positions. He was Acting Head of Department of Sociology from 1997 to 1998. He was also a Faculty Representative of the Faculty of Education from 1996 to 1999. Professor Iwarimie-Jaja was the Chairman of the Department of Sociology Accreditation Committee between 2010 and 2012, and has been the Chairman, Post Graduate Studies

Board, since 2010. Iwarimie-Jaja was also the Chairman, Departmental Graduate Admission Committee from 2008 to 2012 and has served as Chairman, Departmental Committee on Post-Graduate Comprehensive Exams from 2008 to 2012. Professor Iwarimie-Jaja has continued to be relevant in the operations of the following journals: * Editorial Board Member: Acta Criminology — Southern African Journal of Criminology * Editor-in-chief: Nigerian Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies * Editor: Nigerian Journal of Criminal Justice Affairs * Associate Editor: Pan African Social Sciences Review * International Advisor: The Journal, Child Abuse Research in South Africa (CARSA).

Conferences

Iwarimie-Jaja has attended several conferences and workshops and presented papers numbering over 35 papers. He gave the key note address at the inauguration of the Nigerian Society of Criminology and at the Second National Conference of the Nigerian Association of Social Work Educators (NASWE).

Publications

Professor Iwarimie-Jaja has several publications. His published books are more than twenty books, and his articles in learned journals are over forty five, and his chapters in books number over ten and he has three monographs.

Supervision of Undergraduate and Post-Graduate Programmes

Professor Darlington Iwarimie-Jaja has supervised several undergraduate and post-graduate students, some of whom are criminologists working with both the federal and state governments. Two of such persons have become academicians – Dr. Smart Otu, the Acting HOD, Dept. of Political Science and Sociology, Federal University, Ndufu Alike, Abakaliki, Ebonyi State, and Dr. Owen Ekpenyong, Department of Sociology, Niger Delta University, Bayelsa State.

Service to the Community

Our 105th Inaugural Lecturer, Professor Darlington Iwarimie-Jaja served as the coordinator of Community Service Programme for five years (from 1986-1994) for the Faculty of Social Sciences, and was responsible, together with the late Professor K. L. S. Kojo (former Dean, Social Sciences) for the Planting of fruit trees within the University.

Service to Professional Bodies

Darlington Iwarimie-Jaja has continued to serve in the following professional bodies: NUC Member of AD-HOC Accreditation Panel (March 2012) to Redeemers University, Mowe, Ogun State and Crescent University, Abeokuta, Ogun State. Senate Member: University of Port Harcourt (1997 — 1998); (2011 till present). Joint Promoter on Ph.D Dissertation: Department of Criminology, University of South Africa, Pretoria, South Africa (1998 — 2001). Council

Member: College of Arts and Science, Rumuola, Port Harcourt (1998 — 2001). Adjunct Senior Lecturer in Criminology: Faculty of Law, Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Port Harcourt (1998). External Examiner in Criminal Justice/Sociology (Undergraduate): Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Department of Sociology/Anthropology (1999/2000 Session; 2000/2001 Session). External Examiner in Social Work (Undergraduate): Faculty of Social Sciences, SUB-Department of Social Work, University of Nigeria, Nsukka (2000/2001 Session; 2001/2002 Session; 2002/2003 Session; 2003/2004 Session; 2004/2005 Session; 2005/2006 Session). External Examiner in Sociology (Undergraduate): Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Sociology, Niger Delta University, Bayelsa State (2011/2012 Session).

Awards and Honours

Professor Darlington Iwarimie-Jaja has gained several awards and honours which include.

- Outstanding achievement Awards (Certificate and Medal) in honour of an outstanding contribution to Theoretical Criminology.
- Honorary Appointment into the Research Board of Advisors by the American Bibliographical Institute.
- Distinguished Educational Leadership Award on the 75th African Economic Rebirth Conference organized by the Institute of industrial Administration of Nigeria, held at Conference hall, Federal Secretariat, Aba Road (opposite Hotel Presidential), Port Harcourt on Friday 25th November, 2005; Earned the right to append the letters FIIA: Fellow Institute of Industrial Administration.

National and International Recitations

Professor Darlington Iwarimie-Jaja has been recognized by national and international bodies such as:

- Who is who in Nigeria, by the Bibliographical Centre of Nigeria (1999).
- One of the Outstanding People of the 20th Century by the International Bibliographical Centre of Cambridge, England (2000).
- Who is who in Opobo (academics) by the Opobo Watch; April, 2011.

Membership of Professional Bodies

Professor Darlington Iwarimie-Jaja has been an active member of the following professional bodies:

- * North Eastern Association of Criminal Justice Educators
- * Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
- * Criminology Society of Southern Africa
- * South African Professional Society on the Abuse of Children
- * Interdisciplinary Studies Association of Nigeria (ISAN)
- * Research Board of Advisors, the American Bibliographical Institute.
- * Institution of Industrial Administration of Nigeria
- * Nigerian Society of Criminology
- * Rivers State Child Rights Implementation Committee (2005 — 2008).

- * Founder/Trustee/Secretary General: Nigerian Society of Criminology.
- * Patron: National Association of Criminology and Security Studies.

Conclusion

Mr. Vice chancellor Sir, distinguished scholars, ladies and gentlemen. It is a great honor, a rare privilege for me which I will relish for a long time to come, to introduce to us the 105th inaugural lecturer who is a sociologist, criminologist, social work educator, publicist, human rights activist, child rights defender, researcher par excellence and teacher, Professor Darlington Iwarimie-Jaja.

Professor Omenihu C. Nwaorgu