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Media and Communication Studies

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**UNEMPLOYMENT IN NIGERIA**

* **Thesis**

This research writing focuses on unemployment in Nigeria, alongside the types, the causes, the consequences and solution to the problems of unemployment. It will educate and inform the readers more about unemployment. This work will also provide information on what to do when he/she is unemployed.

* **Introduction**

We would define unemployment as a situation in which persons capable and willing to work are unable to find suitable paid employment. In other words, unemployment refers to a situation in which people who are capable of working and who are qualified by age to work cannot find employment.

Nigeria does not have reliable figures of unemployment rate. However, Nigerian history shows that the government, commercial houses, companies and private institutions have been forced to turn out considerable numbers of all workers into the street with no hope of finding alternative jobs. This has compounded the problem of school-leavers of all ages who have for some years been living in the expectation that one day there would be jobs waiting for them.

* **Body**

Unemployment comes in different types: structural unemployment, seasonal unemployment, mass unemployment, under employment, frictional unemployment, voluntary unemployment, residual unemployment and casual unemployment.

Structural unemployment is as a result of changes in the pattern of demand of certain commodity. If the demand is low, it could lead to industries reducing their workforce.

Seasonal unemployment is the type of unemployment which takes place in industries whose production is a subject to seasonal variation. Using the farming industry for example, during dry season there are no cultivation of crops and this situation leaves the farmer unemployed for that season. Seasonal unemployment is common in Nigeria.

Mass unemployment affects many occupations and industries in Nigeria at the same time. It is caused by the decrease in the quantity of goods demanded.

Under employment occurs when an individual works at less than his full capacity. Most Nigerians fall victim of this time of unemployment.

Frictional unemployment is as a result of changes in the techniques of production, due to the advancement of technology, machines are used for production instead of workers.

Voluntary unemployment occurs when a worker deliberately refuses to take up paid employment even though employment opportunities are available.

Residual unemployment arises as a result of physical and mental disabilities.

Casual unemployment involves jobs that are not permanent e.g. part time jobs.

A lot of factors could result in unemployment, some which are; inadequate educational system, lack of industrial growth; most developing countries do not have industries that are capable of employing enough workers. Over population is also another cause of unemployment. The forth cause is geographical mobility, this is due to certain circumstances, labour find it difficult to move from one geographical area to another. The last cause is high cost of education is a cause of unemployment because the cost of acquiring education is high and many people may find it difficult to go to school so they end up with low paper qualification which may not get them employed.

Increase in crime rate is one of the major effect of unemployment, when there is a large number of unemployed persons, it usually leads to increase in crime rate such as hired assassination in a bid to survive. Another effect of unemployment is waste of human resource; the time, money and energy spent on acquiring degrees and certificate will be wasted and labour will be made idle. The third effect of unemployment is migration; when there is unemployment, it usually results in able youths and adult moving out of the country to look for jobs in other places. The last effect of unemployment is reduction in investment; the zeal to invest is always very low when there is a high level of unemployment.

Population control will go a long way in curbing this issue of unemployment so that human population can match with the available resources. Provision of social amenities does encourage workers and tend to reduce unemployment. Government should establish many industries that can employ workers. Proper development plans should be put in place to cater for the unemployed. Individuals can be self employed.