

SINGLE PARENTING: IMPLICATIONS ON THE FAMILY LIFESTYLE IN POST COVID 19 PERIOD IN ILORIN WEST

ABDULKADIR, S. O., GBADEBO, C. T. ADAM, R.O. AND AHMED. T.

Department of Home Economics and Food Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ilorin, Ilorin.

Corresponding Author: bello.os@unilorin.edu.ng/08061516669

ABSTRACT

The study investigated the challenges of single parenting and its implication on the family lifestyle in Post-COVID period in Ilorin West Local Government of Kwara State. Six (6) objectives were set of which six (6) research questions were raised and three (3) null hypotheses were formulated and tested at 0.05 level of significance. The study adopted a survey research design method of which questionnaire was used to obtain information from the respondents. Two Hundred (200) single parents representing about 7% of the total population of Two thousand, Eight Hundred and Thirty-Three (2833) single parents in Ilorin West Local Government were randomly sampled. The data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and the hypotheses were tested using t-test, Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) and Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC). The results revealed that (3.33±1.47) 29.0% of the parents find it difficult to meet ends, (3.35±1.37) 31.0% of the parents had difficulty in raising their children and paying their education expenses, (3.18±1.39) 28.0% of the children often complained their friends have school items than them, (3.50±1.28) 39.0% of the children felt ashamed to socialize with their peers, (3.59±1.34) 34.0% of the children were deprived of getting assistance from their relatives, (3.66±1.31) 33.0% of the children felt worried and disturbed about carrying out family responsibilities. The findings also revealed that (2.95±1.53) 25.4% of the children were affected academically, (2.88±1.31) 35.5% of the children lack adequate parental care, (3.34±1.30) 39.0% experienced anxiety and depression, while (3.25±1.45) 27.5% have inadequate financial capacity. Based on the findings, the study concluded that challenges and implications of single parenting greatly influence the family lifestyle in meeting family ends, raising children and sponsoring their education.

Keywords: Parenting, Single parenting, Socio-economic status, Family Lifestyle, Post-COVID 19.

INTRODUCTION

Family is one of the most important agents of socialization and its important must not be underrated in the society (Mabuza, Thwala & Okeke, 2014). Arrangement and lifting of youngsters with the standards and estimation of the society is one of the vital functions of the family as parents influence their children in each steps of their life. However, as a result of single parenting, the wholehearted love and warmth a child requires seemed to decrease and which has a direct influence on the child's upbringing and overall health status of the child (Falana, Bada & Ayodele, 2012). As cited by Ekpenyong and Lawrence (2016) in Dowd (2002), a single parent is a parent, not living with spouse or partner, who has most of the day-to-day responsibilities in raising the child or children. Single parenting is an act of raising a child or children with only one parent or without a partner. A single-parent (is also known as a lone parent, solo parent or

sole parent). Single parenthood is the practice of raising children or building family without a spouse or partner. As a choice of building a family, single parenthood is acceptable in our society.

Single parenthood was previously unknown in Nigeria, and if it did exist, it was disregarded as an uncommon circumstance. The so-called "nuclear family," which consists of a mother, a father, and the children, is still common, but there are currently fast expanding family patterns both inside and outside of Nigeria (Tenibiaje & Tenibiaje, 2011). In a single parent family structure, the mother is often the primary caregiver due to factors like divorce or an unanticipated pregnancy, among others. In the past, fathers have been the less common primary caregiver, most likely as a result of the father working most of the time without spending much time with the kids. . Although this situation has changed throughout time due to more fathers adopting an active parental role as a stay-at-home dad because more mothers are working and supporting the family on their own, this has led to fathers bonding and connecting with their children more. Adults who want children but do not have a partner may occasionally choose single parent adoption; fostering a child is another option. Around 11% of families in Nigeria are headed by single parents, compared to 16% in the United States, while 6.8% of children under the age of 18 live in single parent households globally on average (Pew Research, 2019).

The idea of single parenting has been more prevalent over time as a result of the rise in death rates, the development of diseases, poverty, and conflict. The worst affected are single females who are frequently left to fend for themselves and their children in Nigeria, where it is practically universal among all ethnic groups and tribes (<https://edubirdie.com>). Death usually strikes unexpectedly and without warning and can result in single parenting in Nigerian society. Financial difficulties are one of the causes that contribute to single parenting. "Single parenting in the post-COVID-19 period in Ilorin West has far-reaching implications on family lifestyles. The potential consequences extend to various aspects, including a child's education. The risk of a child dropping out of school may contribute to long-term issues such as illiteracy. Additionally, the impact on the spouse, particularly if unemployed, can be detrimental.

For children living with single parents, the challenges are even more pronounced. They often grapple with poor mental health, incidents of bullying, stereotyping, stigmatization, and strained family relationships. These factors, in turn, can adversely affect their cognitive abilities. Loneliness and emotional turmoil further compound the situation, potentially leading to diminished expectations in future relationships. Alarmingly, there is a concern that these challenges may contribute to an increased rate of criminality in society. (Retrieved from <https://edubirdie.com>).

Parents are liable for fostering their children's psychological and emotional wellbeing as well as teaching them about society's values and conventions. The societies stigmatize single parents and their children (Mabuza, et al., 2014). In light of this, the study examined the challenges associated with single parenting, as well as how it affects the way of life of the family in Ilorin West Local Government.

Statement of the Problem

Navigating parenthood is inherently challenging, even under optimal circumstances. However, being a single parent in our society poses additional hurdles, making the task even more demanding. In Nigeria, the prevalence of single parenting has escalated to approximately 11%. The challenges of parenthood extend beyond the individual and have profound implications for the children as well. The effects of single parenting are extensive, impacting not only the parent

but also leaving a lasting imprint on the well-being and development of the children. The effects are more devastating on the part of the children because single parenthood leaves them with deep scars. Being a single parent is very tiresome and a challenging task (Funmilayo, 2011). In single-parent families, a myriad of challenges arises, encompassing issues such as inadequate child upbringing, financial strain, diminished parenting quality, emotional struggles, loneliness, and poverty. While some of these difficulties are common to both single and two-parent households, the burden appears more formidable when shouldered by a lone caregiver.

Certain challenges are uniquely faced by single parents, introducing complexities that can make child-rearing more demanding. These distinctive problems include harboring bitterness towards the absent spouse, grappling with loneliness, coping with poverty, and experiencing insecurity about shouldering the responsibility of raising children without assistance. The aftermath of divorce, separation, or the death of a partner often leads to suboptimal parental care and guidance, exposing children to potentially detrimental situations (Olaleye & Oladeji, 2010).

Objectives of the Study

The study investigated the challenges of single parenting and implications on the family lifestyle in Post COVID -19 in Ilorin west. Specific objectives are to:

- i. determine the major causes of single parenting
- ii. assess the challenges faced by single parent
- iii. examine the influence of challenges of single parenting on family lifestyle
- iv. determine the differences in challenges of single parenting by socioeconomic status

Research Questions

The following questions were raised and answered for the study:

- i. What are the major causes of single parenting?
- ii. What are the challenges faced by single parent?
- iii. How do the challenges of single parenting affect family lifestyle?
- iv. What is the difference among single parents from low, middle and high socioeconomic status in relations to challenges of single parenting?

Research Hypotheses

Ho₁. There is no significant relationship among single parents from low, middle and high socioeconomic status in relations to challenges of single parenting.

Ho₂. There is no significant difference in the challenges of single parenting by religion.

Ho₃. There is no significant difference in the challenges of single parenting by gender.

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

The study adopted a survey research design where data was collected from subjects using questionnaire.

Population of the Study

The total population for this study comprises 2833 single parents from Ilorin West Local Government, Kwara State. The spread is as follows: 568 single fathers and 2265 single mothers. To ascertain their status as single parents, respondents were specifically asked about their current family structure and whether they were the sole caregivers for their children. The inclusion criteria for the study were based on self-reporting by individuals who identified themselves as

single parents during the survey. This approach ensured that the study focused specifically on those individuals who met the criteria for single parenthood, providing a targeted and relevant sample for the research.

Sample and Sampling Techniques

Sampling is described as taking a portion of a population or universe and considering the representativeness of that population or universe” (De Voset et al., 2005). A random sampling technique was used to select sample for the study. 200 respondents were selected at random from Ilorin West Local Government Area which makes up to about 7% of the entire population.

Instrument for Data Collection

The instrument used for collection of data was questionnaire tagged 'Challenges of Single Parenting Questionnaire' and was developed by the researcher based on the objectives, research questions and research hypotheses. To ensure ethical standards and enhance the research's robustness, a systematic approach was employed for obtaining consent and administering the questionnaire.

Informed consent was sought from each potential participant, clearly outlining the purpose of the study, the voluntary nature of their participation, and the confidentiality of their responses and regarding their status as single parents. The researcher employed various methods to reach potential respondents, including community leaders, social organizations, and local government offices.

Upon obtaining consent, the questionnaire was administered in a structured manner and was distributed to participants. Detailed instructions were provided to ensure clarity on how to complete the questionnaire, and respondents were given the opportunity to seek clarification on any item if needed.

The careful consideration of ethical principles and the systematic approach to obtaining consent and administering the questionnaire not only uphold the integrity of the research process but also contribute to the reliability and validity of the collected data.

Data Analysis

Data collected was analyzed with descriptive statistics of frequencies percentages, mean and standard deviation. The hypotheses involved in the study were analyzed with Analysis of variance (ANOVA), t-test and (PPMC). All hypotheses were tested at 0.05 level of significance at which hypothesis will be accepted or rejected.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**Socioeconomic Characteristics of the Respondents****Table 1: Distribution of Respondents Based on Socioeconomic Characteristics (n=200)**

Variables	Category	Frequency	Percentage
Sex	Male	62	31.0
	Female	138	69.0
Age (In Years)	21-30	47	23.5
	31-40	56	28.0
	41-50	51	25.5
	Above 50 years	46	23.0
Religion	Christianity	94	47.0
	Islam	99	49.5
	Traditional	5	2.5
	Atheist	2	1.0
Education Background	No formal education	6	3.0
	Primary school leaving certificate	13	6.5
	SSCE	27	13.5
	NCE/OND	30	15.0
	B.Sc./HND	71	35.5
	M.Sc.	26	13.0
	Ph.D.	27	13.5
Occupation	Civil servant	68	34.0
	Self-employed	89	44.5
	Private sector	30	15.0
	Unemployed	13	6.5
Ethnicity	Yoruba	151	75.5
	Hausa	12	6.0
	Igbo	22	11.0
	Others	15	7.5
Monthly Income (₦)	Less than 15000	19	9.5
	15000 – 30000	39	19.5
	30000 – 45000	27	13.5
	45100 – 60000	25	12.5
	60,100 - 75,000	30	15.0
	75,100 - 100,000	32	11.0
	Above 100,000	38	19.0
Type of Accommodation of parents	Detached house	8	4.0
	Duplex apartment	57	28.5
	Bungalow flat	65	32.2
	One room apartment	39	19.5
	Leased temporal usage	31	15.5

Source: Field Survey, 2022.

Analysis of Research Questions

Research Question 1: What are the major causes of single parenting?

Table II: Distribution of Respondents Based on Causes of Single Parenting (n=200)

Causes of Single Parenting	Frequency	Percent
Divorced	33	16.5
Widowed	52	26.0
Separated	51	25.5
Abandoned	23	11.5
Never married	41	20.5

Source: Field Survey, 2022.

Results in Table II indicate the responses of the respondents based on the causes of single parenting. The table revealed that the death of spouse causes the single parenting representing (52) 26.0%, followed by separation of the couples 51 (25.5%) and the least was abandoned 23 representing 11.5%.

Research Question 2: What are the challenges faced by single parents?

Table III: Mean Ratings and Rank Order of Challenges Faced by Single Parents in Ilorin, Kwara State.

Items	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Mean Rank	Remark	SD
Finding it difficult to make ends meet	58 (29.0%)	55 (27.5%)	11 (5.5%)	47 (23.5%)	29 (14.5%)	3.33	Agree	1.47
Difficulties in raising the children and paying for their educational expenses	50 (25.0%)	62 (31.0%)	17 (8.5%)	49 (24.5%)	22 (11.0%)	3.35	Agree	1.37
Children often complain that their friends have more school items than them	42 (21.0%)	56 (28.0%)	28 (14.0%)	43 (21.5%)	31 (15.5%)	3.18	Agree	1.39
Children feeling ashamed to socialize with their age group	27 (13.5%)	45 (22.5%)	37 (18.5%)	64 (32.0%)	27 (13.5%)	2.90	Disagree	1.27
Failure to get financial assistance from relatives and other people	62 (31.0%)	68 (34.0%)	16 (8.0%)	34 (17.0%)	20 (10.0%)	3.59	Agree	1.34
Feeling worried and disturbed of carrying the responsibility of	66 (33.0%)	66 (33.0%)	19 (9.5%)	32 (16.0%)	17 (8.5%)	3.66	Agree	1.31

the family

Source: Field Survey, 2022.

Table III shows the mean and rank order of respondents' view on challenges faced by single parents. A mean of 3.00 was used as the decision. Respondents agreed to all statements that had their mean rating above or equal to the benchmark mean of 3.00 while they disagreed with all statements that had mean rating below 3.00. From the table, respondents agreed that they are finding it difficult to make ends meet ($\bar{x} = 3.33$), there is difficulty in raising the children and paying for their educational expenses (31%, $\bar{x} = 3.35$), children often complain that their friends have more school items than them ($\bar{x} = 3.18$), Children feeling ashamed to socialize with their age group ($\bar{x} = 2.90$), there is failure to get financial assistance from relatives and other people (34%, $\bar{x} = 3.59$), and that they feel worried and disturbed of carrying the responsibility of the family (33%, $\bar{x} = 3.66$).

Research Question 3: How does the challenges of single parenting affect the family lifestyle?

Table IV: Mean Ratings and Rank Order of Effect of Challenges of Single Parenting in Ilorin, Kwara State.

Items	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Mean Rank	Remark	SD
Lower level of academic achievement on children	46 (23.0%)	42 (21.0%)	19 (9.5%)	42 (21.0%)	51 (25.4%)	2.95	Disagree	1.53
Children lack adequate parental care	27 (13.5%)	51 (25.5%)	22 (11.0%)	71 (35.5%)	29 (14.5%)	2.88	Disagree	1.31
Experience anxiety and depression	38 (19.0%)	78 (39.0%)	19 (9.5%)	44 (22.0%)	21 (10.5%)	3.34	Agree	1.30
Inadequate financial capacity	52 (26.0%)	55 (27.5%)	15 (7.5%)	48 (24.0%)	30 (15.0%)	3.25	Agree	1.45

Source: Field Survey, 2022.

Table IV indicates the mean and rank order of respondents' view on the challenges of single parenting as it affects the family lifestyle. A mean score of 3.00 was adopted as the decision. This means that any statement that had a mean rating ≥ 3.00 was regarded as agree while other statement that had < 3.00 were considered disagree meaning they were not regarded as been the effect of single parenting as affecting family lifestyle. From the table, the respondents agreed that the following statements were effects of single parenting on the family lifestyle. They agreed that children have low level of academic achievement ($\bar{x} = 2.95$), children lack adequate parental care (40%, $\bar{x} = 2.88$); they do not have much time to spend with their children $\bar{x} = 3.00$); experience anxiety and depression (39%, $\bar{x} = 3.34$) and that there is inadequate financial capacity (27.5%, $\bar{x} = 3.25$).

Hypotheses Testing

H₀₁: There is no significant relationship among single parents from low, middle and high socioeconomic status in relations to challenges of single parenting

Table V: Results of Correlation Analysis between Low, Middle and High Socioeconomic Status and the Challenges of Single Parenting

Variables	R-value	P-value	Decision
Income	-0.417***	0.000	Significant
Academic qualification	-0.486***	0.000	Significant
Parents occupation	-0.200***	0.005	Significant

Source: SPSS Output, (2019).

Pearson Product Moment Correlation was used to examine the relationship between low, middle and high socioeconomic status of respondents in relation to challenges and implications of single parenting. Table V therefore reveals that income, academic qualification and occupation of parents were significantly related to challenges and implications of single parenting. The hypothesis was therefore rejected ($p < 0.05$). Income had a negative but significant relationship ($r = -0.486$, $p = 0.000$). This indicates that an increase in the level of education acquired by single parents will lead to a considerable decrease in the challenges and implications of single parenting. Finally, occupation of parents was found to be significant and had a negative relationship with challenges of single parenting ($r = -0.200$, $p = 0.005$). This implies that an improvement in the occupation of single parents will as well lead to a decrease in the challenges they face. This could be as a result of benefits that will accrue to such occupations in terms of income and welfare.

H₀₂: There is no significant difference in the challenges of single parenting by religion.

Table VI: Analysis of the Difference in the Expressed Challenges of Single Parenting on the Basis of Religion.

Groups	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	P-Value	Decision
Between Groups	708.309	3	236.10	1.16	0.33	Retained
Within Groups	39887.886	196	203.51			
Total	40596.195	199				

P > 0.05

The result in Table VI above shows the F-value to be 1.16 and P-value to be 0.33 which was greater than 0.05 alpha level. Therefore, the null hypothesis two was retained. This means that the religion of the respondents does not influence their expression on the challenges and implications of single parenting, reason been that the calculated p-value was greater than the alpha level ($0.33 > 0.05$). This implies that there was no significant difference in challenges of single parenting by religion.

H₀₃: There is no significant difference in the challenges of single parenting by sex.

Table VII: Analysis of the Difference in the Expressed Challenges of Single Parenting on the Basis of Gender.

Gender	No	Mean	Std	Df	Cal.t	P-value	Decision
Male	62	58.17	14.82	198	0.22	0.83	H₀ Retained
Female	138	57.70	14.08				

P > 0.05

As shown on Table VII, The results of the Analysis of the difference in the expressed challenges and implications of single parenting on the basis of gender shows that the calculated t-values was 0.22 while its calculated P-value is 0.83 at alpha level of 0.05. On this basis, the null hypothesis was therefore retained. This implies that there was no significant difference in the expressed challenges of single parenting on the basis of gender. The reason was that the calculated significance value (0.83) was greater than 0.05 alpha level, (0.83>0.05).

Discussion of Findings

Results of the findings as provided by research question one revealed that causes of single parenting includes divorced 33 (16.5%), widowed 52 (26%), separated 51 (25.5%), and abandoned by spouse 23 (11.5%) and never married 41 (20.5%). According to Kalman (2003), there are several causes for these single parent households. Amato (2000) corroborated the findings of this study when he asserted that divorce is one of the main events that lead to single parenting in advanced countries and different social circumstances, personal attributes and even genetic aspects may contribute to the risk of divorce.

In the same vein, findings of this study as revealed by answering research question two indicated that the challenges faced by single parents include: Finding it difficult to make ends meet (56.6%), difficulty in raising the children and paying for their educational expenses (56%), children's complaint of their friends having more school items than them (49%), failure to get financial assistance from relatives and other people (65%), and feeling worried and disturbed of carrying the family responsibility alone (66%). In line with the findings of this study, Bellavia and Front (2005), indicated that single parents struggle with most family demands and that they are not more likely to report spending sufficient time with their children but they do suffer from the highest rates of time strain based conflicts. Dunn (2008) reported that families led by single mothers face three major problems, namely, inadequate income, parenting difficulties particularly in monitoring the children and running the house. Furthermore, the results of this study as put forward by answering research question three revealed that the challenges of single parenting affects family lifestyle as single experience anxiety and depression (58%), lower level of academic achievement on children (25.4%), 35.5% of children lack adequate parental care and parents lack adequate financial capacity (53.5%). The study however found out that though single parents are faced with a lot of challenges and do not have enough time for their home, they still strive to have close relationship with their children. According to Yunus *et al.*, (2011), family lifestyle refers to the way that families live, their attitude, knowledge, and habits. Family relationships not only enables one to grow up, get socialized and find his/her own identity, but also reflects the structure and culture as well as values, expectations and rules of the society.

The findings of this study as presented by testing hypothesis one indicated that there was a significant relationship in the challenges of single parenting in relation to low, middle and high income socioeconomic status. The results showed that an increase in socioeconomic status of single parents will lead to a decrease in the challenges they face thus concluding that single parents of low socioeconomic status suffer more challenged than those from middle and likewise from high status. Hackman and Farah (2009) suggested that socioeconomic status accounts for disparities in cognitive skills and academic outcomes among families. As proposed by Bradley and Corwyn (2002), single parenthood is related to poor material circumstances, which predict poor child outcomes. Single mothers often reported higher rates of financial fragility and lower rates of emergency savings compared to households headed by single fathers and cohabiting or married couples (West, 2015).

Results of the findings in hypothesis two stated that religion of the respondents does not influence their expression on the challenges and implications of single parenting. Udo (2010) gives a concise definition of religion as belief in, and commitment to, the supernatural or transcendent being, by which one's life is integrated. Thus, morality is part of the core basis upon which all religious beliefs and tenets are integrated. It therefore becomes imperative to note that the religion of an individual irrespective of either single parents or not will not influence their expression on issues pertaining to single parenting as beliefs. Single mothers who attend church want their children to be involved in church as well so they can be taught religious traditions and learn more about their own beliefs Penny (2006). Religion which indirectly transcends to the beliefs of individuals has a critical role to play in their perception and expression on the implications of single parenting.

Finally, results of the findings in hypothesis three stated that there was no significant difference in the expressed challenges and implications of single parenting with respect to gender. Kalman, (2003) asserted that though stereotypical thinking about single-parent families considers and lumps all of them as mothers solely involved in child training, there are also single fathers. In other words, single parent fathers exist as much as single mothers and they expressed challenges and implication of single parenting is common amongst them. Thus, both groups face challenges which may be peculiar to both of them or individually different but are all founded on common grounds. Studies of Craig (2005) and Kail (2002) revealed that in the single parent families the absence of the other parent figure results in failure to provide a basis for positive attachment between the absent parent and the child thereby affecting the child's psychosocial aspect of learning and development.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the study explored the challenges of single parenting and their impact on family lifestyles in post-COVID-19 Ilorin West. From identifying causes such as divorce, widowhood, separation, abandonment, and never-married status, to delving into the multifaceted challenges faced by single parents; ranging from financial struggles to emotional tolls, the research highlighted the far-reaching implications on family dynamics. Notably, a significant link between socioeconomic status and challenges emerged, indicating that those with lower status faced more difficulties. Surprisingly, religion did not significantly influence the expression of challenges, emphasizing the diverse beliefs within single-parent households. Gender also proved inconsequential in the challenges faced, debunking stereotypes about single-parent responsibilities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings and conclusions, it is recommended that:

1. Parents should stay together with their children to ensure they are properly catered for and their welfare.
2. Government should support free and compulsory education to children experiencing the challenges and they should financially support or empower less privileged parents.
3. Public enlightenment should be encouraged to address this issue and enlighten parents more on appropriate parenting styles, parenting skills, family values, possible ways of resolving family crisis and children discipline.
4. Single mothers should be considered for government positions and promotions to assist them in raising their economic status.

REFERENCES

- Amato, P., & Keith, B. (2000) “*Parental Divorce and the Well-being of Children*” A Meta Analysis. *Psychological Bulletin*, 110, 26-46.
- Azuka-Obieke,U. (2013) “Single Parenting, *Psychological Well-being and Academic Performance of Adolescents*” University of Lagos, Nigeria. *Journal of Emerging Trends in Educational Research and Social Studies*, 4(1), 112-117.
- Bellavia, G. M., & Frone, M. R. (2005). Work-family conflict. In J. Barling, E. K. Kelloway, and M. R. Frone (Eds.), *Handbook of work stress* (pp. 113 – 147). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Bradley, R.H., & Corwyn, R.F. (2002). Socioeconomic status and child development. *Annu. Rev. Psychol.* 53, 371–399.
- Chingovo, L. & Manyati, M. (2012). *Family Health and Life Skills*. Harare. Zimbabwe Open University.
- Conger, R. D., & Donnellan, M. B. (2007). An Interactionist perspective on the socioeconomic context of human development. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 58, 175-199.
- Craig, L. (2005). The Money or Care: A Comparison of Couple and Sole Parent Household. *Australian Journal*. Australia.
- De Vos, A. S., Strydom, H., Fouche, C. B., & Delport, C. S. L. (2005). *Research at Grass Roots*. 3rd ed. Pretoria: Van Schaik Publishers.
- Dowd, N. E (2002). “*In Defense of Single Families*” New York: New York University Press.
- Dunn, J., Cheng, H., G O'Connor, T., & Bridges, L. (2004). Children's perspectives on their relationships with their nonresident fathers: influences, outcomes and implications. *Journal of Child Psychology Psychiatry*, 45(3):553-566
- Ekpenyong N. S., & Lawrence U., (2016) Single-Parent Families and their impact on children: A Study of Amassoma Community in Bayelsa State, Nigeria. *European Journal of Research in Social Sciences* 4(9), 1-24.
- Falana, B.A., Bada, F.O., & Ayodele, C.J. (2012). Single-Parent Family Structure, Psychological, Social and Cognitive Development of Children in Ekiti State. *Journal of Educational and Development Psychology*, 2(2), 158-164.
- Funmilayo O. (2010). A Communicator in THISDAY Newspaper reported by Chiemelie E.
- Hackman, D. A., & Farah, M. J. (2009). Socioeconomic status and the developing brain. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 13(2), 65-73.
- Kail, R. (2002). *Children Care*. New Jersey. Prentice Hall.

- Kalman M. B., (2003). Adolescent girls, single-parent fathers, and menarche [Electronic version]. *Journal of Holistic Nursing Practice*, 17, 36-41.
- Olaleye Y.L., & Oladeji, D. (2010) “Single Parenthood Impact on Street Children in Ibadan Metropolis, Nigeria” *African Research Review. An International Multi-Disciplinary Journal*, Ethiopia, 4(2), 185-196.
- Tenibiaje, M. O. & Tenibiaje, D. J. (2011). Effect of Single-parenthood on the academic performance of secondary school students in Ekiti State, Nigeria. *International Review of Social Sciences and Humanities* 2(1), 240-248.
- West, S. (2015). Financial fragility and emergency savings in households headed by single mothers. Poster presented at the Annual Fall Research Conference of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Miami, FL.
- Yunus, G., Fatma, T. S. & Haktan, D., (2012). Functions of the family: Family structure and Place Of residence. Energy Education Science and Technology Part B: *Journal of Social and Educational Studies*. 4(1), 549-556.