

# **Policy Implications of Total Eradication of Commercial Motor Cycles (Achaba) as A Means of Livelihood in Some Northeastern States of Nigeria a Case Study of Taraba State**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The unanswered question to unemployment has paved way, to a commercial motorcycles business to many Nigeria youths as a means of livelihood and self employment, authors and scholars as viewed the development as healthy for the developing nations, yet the policy makers has erred by the banned of this new drive for economic empowerments, the review highlighted the negative implication against the positive implications, which opined that the negative implications out weight the positive implications.

**Keywords:** Policy implication, Commercial motorcycles and Livelihood

## **1.1 INTRODUCTION**

The developing countries of the world are faced with serious peril of poverty over the years rendering the youth unemployed, resulting to a diverse evil adventure in attempt to pull out of the menace of poverty, the faithful among the youth resulted to a most popular livelihood business called achaba in the northern Nigeria, going in the western Nigeria and okada in the southern Nigeria, this is a motor cycles business of transporting people and goods from , one destination and the other, this activities has drastically reduced the numbers of the unemployed youth, and have served as a means of revenue to the government, the business has also led to the introduction of the other outlets of business as a leverage, to support the business, these outlets of business are , motor cycles spares parts , motor cycles repairs and services, the business form and register a union, where workers are employed to work for the union of motor cycle association, thus helping in the process of reducing the level of unemployment, that has become a menace that bedevil the society, the Commercial motorcycling gained her popularity during Ibrahim Babagida Badimasi's regime. The decision to pursue a programme of mass transportation service with emphases on commercial motorcycle, since that time, commercial motorcycling has become one among the chief modes of transportation in Nigeria and by far the commonest mode of informal transportation system in the country. In late 1980s, taxis and commercial buses were the most used for intra-city transportation. Following increase in the population of the country, the number of buses and taxis could not cope with the increasing demand for transportation. There are also high costs of car maintenance. These conditions necessitated the emergence of commercial motorcycle business .This is because of people's desire to move from one area to different other areas regularly, at a reasonable and affordable cost and time with some assured degree of safety and comfort (oyesiku, 2002). In view of this significance, transportation has become one of the most influential activities in Nigeria economy, This mode of transportation has come to fill an important gap in both urban and rural transportation system in Nigeria and has provided employment to many unemployed youth, a means of livelihood to many people, it has also contributed to other category of people who provides some services to the commercial motorcyclists by such doing, and those people are being employed (Ogunsanya and Galtima, 1993). The beautiful economic scenario brought by the commercial motor cycle cannot be overemphasizes, yet the policy intervention of the government against the new terrorist group book haram , has led to the eradication of this economic activities that has been a source of revenue, livelihood, employment and also measures against crime of idleness. The simple reasons advanced by the policy makers, was book haram uses motor cycles as a means of their evil operations, the policy makers fail to bring to fore, the process of policy formulation, of; identification of the problem, formulating a policy to solve that problem identified, policy implementation and evaluation of the policy effects, if the above were followed, during brainstorming about the problem identified, there could have been an alternative control of the motor cycles against the total eradication, which has brought a great setback and more economic hardship on the people against their wish.

This paper analyzes the policy implications against the so called security reasons advanced by the hasty policy maker and the great loss of economy benefits, resulting from the unwisdom, unprofessional, and irrational policy

### 1.2 PUBLIC POLICY

Every society is legal known by the type of government that governed the society, the governments are entities enact laws, make policies and allocate resource. Public policy as a system of law, regulatory measures, courses of action and funding priorities concerning given topic promulgated by a government entity or its representatives. Individual and group often attempt to shape public policy through advocacy, education or mobilization of interest group(Dean G.K. 2000)

Public policy is more , however than laws and regulations' policy is made as the people who implement policy make decisions about who will benefits from policies and who will shoulder burdens as the result of the policy(Birkland , 2001) and Edwards et al,( 2006) opined that policy is also the result of government inaction , common understanding of the definition put forth by the three authors indicates that policy are made to benefits the people against an individual, this implies that policies must structure towards human and economic development growth, when policy is made against any of the above is faulty and must be revisited to solve human problems.

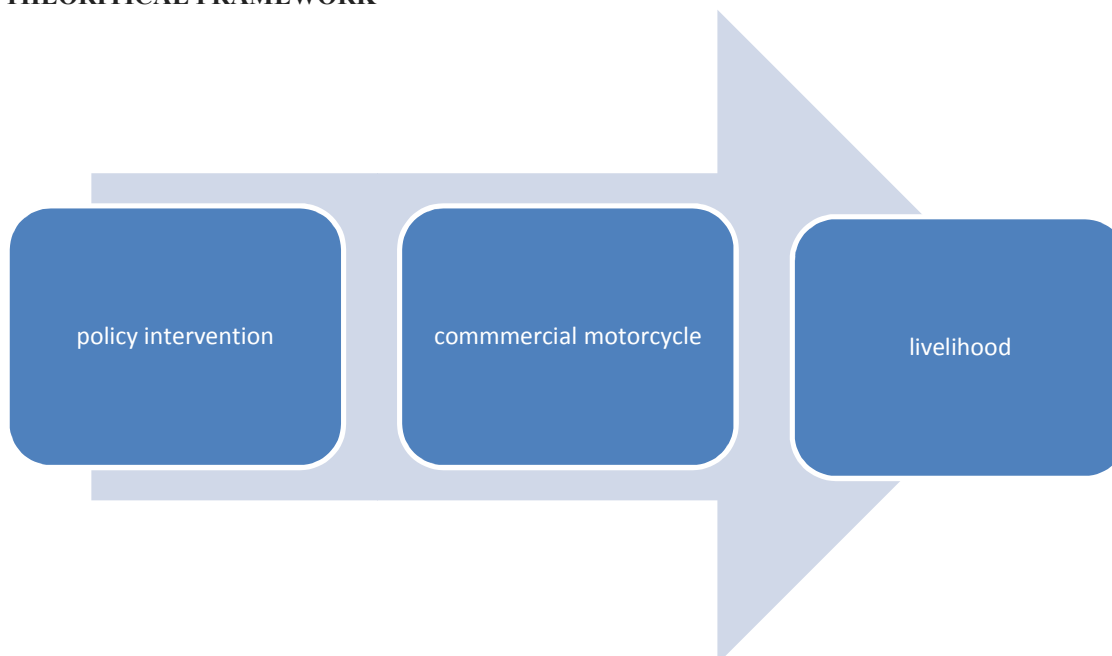
### 1.3 POLICY MAKER AND ACTIVITIES

Someone who has the power and authority to set a plan influence and pursue it through the ability of making right decision, Policy makers can also be those relatively powerful people who have been elected or appointed to office to solve problems at one of the levels, the activities of the policy maker is to identified the problem that require urgent attention , in order to brainstorm on the right policy to solve the problem, implement the policy and evaluate the effects of the policy in term of result achieve. When the evaluation of the policy implemented result, does not seem to solve the problem in question, it means the policy has fail woefully and a good policy maker will have a re-think on the way forward.

### 1.4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy implication can be termed as the consequences which are implied by the statements of the policy. This is very important when the policy wordings are interpreted in the court of law. It is important to decide as to what the intention of the policy maker was behind the wordings. But for the sake of this review policy implication is the negative effects the policy has on the people, their government and the society at large. When policy does effects the lives of the people positively, its means it has implicative impacts against those that the policy were made to benefit.

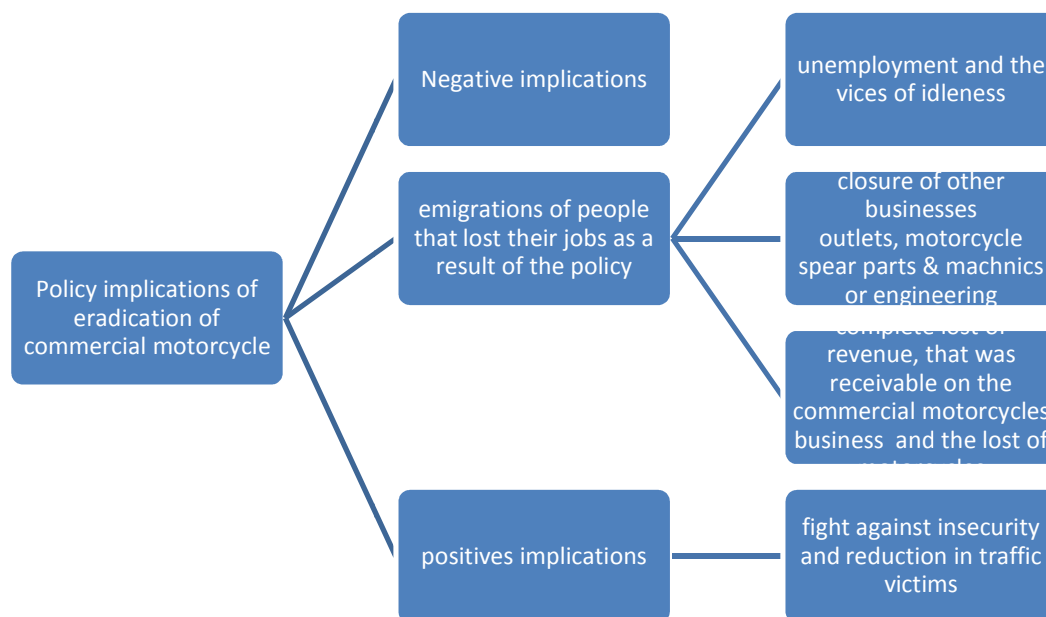
### THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK



The theoretical framework synthesizes the key words of the study, through an analysis of the relevant group process model , has policy intervention as an independent while commercial motorcycles and livelihood as dependent variables, the theoretical framework reflect the Group-process model which the independent variable (policy

intervention) represents Policy outcome of competition for influence among them while commercial motorcycles represent ,Relative power of interest groups determines the substance of policy and values that government promotes and means of livelihood, represent an Assumes that policies that are most acceptable to organized and influential interest groups in society are the best policies overall for government institutions to adopt. This implies that the outcome of every policy must serve that interest of the society and to aid the means of their livelihood, any policy that has negative impacts on the means of livelihood of the members of the society is unacceptable.

## 2.1 PROPOSED MODEL OF POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF ERADICATION OF COMMERCIAL MOTORCYCLES



### Summary of researcher’s approach (2013)

The proposed model of that policy implications of eradication of commercial motorcycles, indicates the negative and positive implications of such policy to the given society under review, it demonstrate, the positive implications as taking the lower side base on the fact that , its stand for fighting crime particularly with the advent of the Nigeria terrorist group , Boko Haram and the so called reduction on the numbers of traffic victims, which was claimed to have been cause by the commercial motorcycles, yet with the eradication of the commercial motorcycles, there is little reduction on the numbers of traffic victims, the negative implications out weight the positive implications, as it is expected of the policy maker to critically examine the impacts of any policy and to carry out the one that has more advantage than disadvantage, the negative implications above indicated a massive emigration , movement of the people out of a particularly place as a result of a particular disaster that befall them, the commercial motorcycle riders, the motorcycles spears parts retailers and the motorcycles engineers will of no doubt move out the policy state in search for the better jobs, that is not enough the policy led to unemployment, off course, it has a vices anchored to it, they said idleness is a devil workshop, it will also led to the closure of such business mention above reducing the amount of revenue realize hitherto, drastically and reducing the population of the state.

### 3.1 POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF ERADICATION OF COMMERCIAL MOTORCYCLES

Propositions form the basis for scientific research. The validity of a research study is, to a large extent, evaluated on the criteria of its proposition (Avan & White, 2001) it is in this regards the following propositions were made to clearly analyze the policy implications of eradication of commercial motorcycles in Taraba State.

**Preposition 1:** the policy implications of eradication of motorecycles, as an attempt by the policy maker to combat crime of terrorism has more of implication which can be a drive to insecurity particularly those that lost their job by

the policy. Policy should create relief and not pains. Every policy that disorganizes the people against achievement of their purposes is said to be re-evaluated (Drucker, 1981).

**Proposition2:** The policy has led to the closure of other business outlets, rendering people jobless which is a great setback to economic growth, those revenue accrues to the government on daily basis of the operation of the motorcycles, has been completely lost by the erring policy

**Proposition 3:** the level of unemployment is at the increase following the eradication of motorcycles, the world economy is on the search for total eradication on unemployment, yet an existing policy, is an open invitation to unemployment. The society is at verge of losing the demographic strength by the continuous emigration of people for the search of a livelihood and but the government and the governed are in to the mess together( Adesanya, 1998).

**Proposition 4:** the implication of the policy lack functional process and is in contrast to the policy formation process. Where all good policy followed a define rules (Clinard, 1983) where there is no adherence to procedure for policy formulation , it is possible to have a policy that can be defective to people and the society at large.

#### REGISTERED COMMERCIAL MOTORCYCLES IN TARABA STATE 2003-2012

CATEGORY	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009		2010	2011	2012
Commercial motorcycles	420	535	650	675	901	1020	2001		2509	3205	4021
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>15,937</b>										

#### TASCOMAN (taraba state commercial motorcycles association of Nigeria) (2012)

#### REGISTERED COMMERCIAL MOTORCYCLES BUSINESS OUTLETS IN TARABA STATE 2003-2012

CATEGORY	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
motorcycles	20	25	29	31	32	29	33	35	34	35	<b>303</b>
spears parts Shops											
Motorcycle repairs shops	11	12	14	16	21	23	25	27	28	31	<b>208</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>511</b>										

The data collected from TASCOMAN in 2012 indicates that about 15, 937 registered commercial motorcycles, which also implies the total revenue received from the daily operation and registration of the commercial motorcycles, and it also means that the state has turn over 15,937 persons, unemployed by the, policy , so the implications of the policy is of disadvantage than advantage. The other outlet of the commercial motorcycles also suffered a great defect by the loss of about 511 business, which off course is a great loss to the economy

#### 4.1 CONCLUSION

The commercial motorcycles business has contributed both positively and negatively to the Nigerian economy and society yet the review clearly indicates that the positively contributions out weight that negative. Thus, it is time for all policy makers at all levels to take a holistic approach at the business with a view of making beneficiary policy against policy that will be of defects to the society and all policy, must strengthening the overall strategy of regulating the conduct of the operators of the business and not eradicating them.

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