

# **Demographic Consequences of Terrorism: The Case of Boko Haram in Nigeria**

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## **Introduction**

Terrorist activities affect most regions of the world. Demographic consequences of terrorist attacks, especially deaths and forced migration are among its gravest costs. .

This paper examines the demographic consequences of terrorist activities using the case of Boko Haram in Nigeria. Boko Haram in Hausa (a Nigerian language) means "Western education is forbidden". This Islamic fundamentalist group has been responsible for series of attacks in the Northern part of Nigeria resulting in loss of lives and properties. This study is very important because much attention has not been given to research on the demographic consequences of terrorism.

## **Statement of Problem**

The terrorist activities of the Islamic fundamentalist group Boko Haram has been a major problem in Nigeria in recent times. In 2012 alone hundreds of people have been killed. These terrorist attacks have demographic consequences for Nigeria. Specifically, this study examines the following questions:

1. What are the effects of terrorist activities on the labour force?
2. How does the terrorist activities of Boko Haram influence migration in Nigeria?

3. What are the likely implications of Boko Haram activities on death rate in Nigeria?

### **Methodology**

The study focused on Nigeria. The Federal Republic of Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa. The study used the multi-method research approach to answer the research questions. This means that both quantitative and qualitative techniques were used to collect data.

### **Major Findings**

The study shows that terrorism contributes to increase in deaths, forced migration and reduction of the labour force. The paper argues that if careful and decisive efforts are not directed towards curbing the terrorist activities of this group, the demographic consequences will continue to increase.