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## **Governance, Security and Kidnapping in South-East of Nigeria: The Focus on Imperative For State Police**

**Charles Chukwuma Nwoba**  
Department of Political Science  
Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki.

### **Abstract**

*This study examines the continuous increase of kidnapping in South East of Nigeria on daily bases, despite several efforts such as death sentence offence, joint tax force, shot at sight and purchase of security gadgets etc. to address the scourge. The objective of this paper is to x-ray the inadequacies of security vis-à-vis incessant increase of kidnapping in the South East Region and imperative for State Police. Both qualitative and quantitative methods were used in its investigation. The data employed were gathered from primary sources (questionnaire and interview) and secondary sources such as books, journals, internets, newspapers, magazines etc. were used. While simple percentage, tables and content analysis were utilized through descriptive and inferential data analysis. Liberal Class theory was adopted to anchor the study. The paper discovered that kidnapping is fallout of centralization of security outfits which promoted lack of knowledge of local security peculiarities and inadequate personnel as some communities live without police post. The study recommended that police should be decentralized; state police should be enshrined in the constitution with proper training on local security peculiarities and challenges. Security trust fund should be introduced by the states to fund the security agencies. While 215 (4) of the 1999 constitution should be amended to allow governors/Chairmen of local government as real Chief Security Officers.*

**Keywords:** Security, Governance, Kidnapping, State Police and South East

### **Introduction**

Globally, Africa region has the second highest record of kidnapping activities with 37% after Asia of 44% (NYA-MPR, 2017). Nigeria historical police antecedents fundamentally laid a concrete foundation for decentralisation of policing in the country. Nigeria as a country during and after colonial rule operated a decentralised policing, till the fall of the First Republic in 1966. This assertion is proved by the Native Authority Ordinance No. 4, 1916. This Ordinance vested the responsibility of maintaining law and order in the Native Authorities. The ordinance was further given impetus by the Protectorate Laws (Enforcement) Ordinance of No. 15, 1924. Even though Nigeria Police Force was powered with nationwide jurisdiction, which came into existence on April 1st, 1930 but it was alongside with sub-national police organizations.

The 1960 Constitution in line with regional differences in culture and religion recognised the Local Government Police in the Western Nigeria, Sheriffs and Court Messengers in Eastern Nigeria and the Native Authority Police in the Northern

Nigeria, which existed till the fall of the first republic. The approach was possible because Nigeria has multi-ethnic nationalities with a character of a federal status and there is need for peaceful co-existence.

Other federated states in the world practice decentralised policing. Examples abound: Canada, Provinces maintain independent police and establish laws that regulate their services and structures. eg. Ontario Provincial Police and Surete du Quebec police etc. United States of America is not left out as they operates several security agencies at the federal level, but the states and even some municipalities maintain their police services, independent of the federal government. The federal system in Australia ensures that federating units are responsible for policing within their respective jurisdictions. Again Section 144 of the Constitution of Brazil establishes five distinct police bodies.

Sections 214 and 215 of the 1999 Nigerian Constitution, puts police under the exclusive control of the Federal Government, under item 45 of Part 1 of the Second Schedule in the constitution (1999, Constitution). Nigeria is a complex country with over 250 to 400 tribes and languages. The efforts to address the security challenges that accompanied complexity and multi-tribal structures cumulated to the adoption of federate system of government to lay solid foundation for accommodation of regional diverse interests. However, this assertion was supported by vice president of Nigeria. In the National Security Summit (2018), Osibanjo noted that the nature of the country security challenges is complex and known. The vice-president further stated that it will not be easy to secure a country with over 923,768 square kilometers, and over 180 million people from the centre. He faulted inadequate police personnel and materials for policing the country. He as well remarked that for security architecture and strategies to function effectively and efficiently, it needed to be decentralized and condemned centralization of police from Abuja to police the entire country.

The rate of incessant increase in insecurity despites government efforts in the country is alarming and needed scholarly attention. The deteriorating situation calls for urgent attention. Kidnapping in Nigeria is now a household name coupled with other crimes such as: murdering, political assassination, armed banditry, stealing, herdsmen/farmers maiming and killing, communal conflicts, protests and rampages are now the rule than the exception in the country. It is common in the entire six geo-political zone, south-east inclusive. The governance and security good strategies and architecture becomes the best option to achieve a secured country. It then, requires effective coordination security mechanism with a desired goal of controlling and securing peaceful society for the citizenry. In Nigeria, recently, states such as Adamawa, kaduna, Taraba, Benue, Kaduna etc. are witnessing high killings and destruction of property while South East such as Anambra, Imo, Abia are witnessing high incidence of kidnapping after South-South in the country (Thom-Otuya and Blessing, 2010).

Against this backdrop, this paper is set out to investigate and unravel degree of kidnapping in the south east of Nigeria with special attention on the imperative of state police. In doing so the paper is divided into four sections. Section one captures

the general introduction, section two deals with conceptualization of the concepts, causes of kidnapping inadequacies and arguments for state police. Section three is the methodology. Finally, section four rapped it up with policy alternatives and conclusion. The study raises the following questions: Is there a link between centralization of police at the centre and kidnapping in South-East? Are there inadequacies of governance and security in controlling kidnapping in South East of Nigeria?

### **CONCEPTUAL CLARIFICATIONS**

**Governance and Security.** The two concepts, governance and security are twins with good or bad relationship depending on the managerial capacity or political will of the leader. The nature or mode of security is largely defined by governance. According to George-Genyi (2013) governance provokes and defines the nature of security in a country. She further insists that governance failure weakens security. However, for functional security system, there must be cordial synergy between attributes of good governance such as responsiveness, transparency, accountability and rule of law etc. The condition if well managed will breed political and economic stability and promotes provision of social services, infrastructural facilities and enhance standard of living of her citizenry.

World Bank Report (1989) defined governance as the exercise of political power in the management of a nation's affairs. Odock (2006) adds that good governance is a government anchored on good leadership, respect for the rule of law, due process, accountability and transparency. On the side of bad relationship of the two concepts scholar like Mijah (2006) argues that economic crisis on socio-economic and political spheres are very negative to nation's security. Anifowose, (1982), Ake, (1985), Joseph, (1987) and Ikpe, (2000) however, posit that primitive accumulation of wealth by our disgruntled leaders deteriorates the security system. The situation has given birth to all forms of crime including kidnapping trends in the South East of Nigeria.

### **Kidnapping**

Kidnapping as a social concept has no universal accepted definition among scholars. It has various definitions from different scholars. TRADOC Handbook (2008) notes that kidnapping is a difficult term to define precisely, because many legal variations exist depending on the level of governance establishing laws and the conditions that may be specified or purposely remain general in scope. Fage & Alabi (2017) defined kidnapping as forceful abduction of an individual or a group of individuals. The purpose of the fraudulent act includes economic, political and religious benefits for selfish determination. Adding they voices on the definition of the concept, Uzorma & Nwanegbo-Ben (2014) said that kidnapping is an act of detaining, seizing and carrying away a person by unlawful force, often followed with a demand for ransom as option for freedom. Inyang & Abraham (2013), Nnamani (2015) posit that kidnapping is a crime of unlawful, forceful seizure and detention of a person or persons against his/her or their wish, in anticipation of payment of ransom

or to settle some scores of disagreement. United Nations Treaty Series, (CTS 200, p.5) defined kidnapping as:

*Unlawful detaining a person or persons against their will (including through force; threat; fraud or enticement) for the purpose of demanding for their liberation on illicit gain in or any other economic gain or other material benefits; or in order to oblige someone to do or not to do something. "Kidnapping" excludes disputes over child custody.*

Kidnapping to Adibe (2008) is taking away of a person against the person's will, usually for ransom or in furtherance of another crime. From the foregoing it is an established fact that kidnapping is an evil wind that blows no one any good. The strenuous effects on the victims and their families indicate that under any disguise it constitutes serious crime to humanity. However, the fraudulent act is a violation of individual freedoms that undermines human rights and has a negative impact on the economies, development and security of States (United Nations, 2009). The current high rate of organized criminal group such as terrorist groups, insurgent groups, militants, resort to kidnapping with view to extort to further consolidate their criminal evil tendencies such as trafficking in firearms or drugs, money-laundering or trafficking in persons. These illegal activities pose serious threat to quality of life and hinder economic and social development in society (United Nations, 2009).

### **State Police**

Mersim (2012) conceives state police as police formed under the State authority not under authority of a county or city in the State. It is established by the state rather than those of lower sub-division in a state. Egunjob (2016) defines state police as sub-national police formation, established, organized and maintained by a particular state. It is under the direct control and jurisdiction of one particular state. According to (Olewe & Anga, 1994, p.2):

*the term "Police" is used primarily to denote, a body of people organized to maintain civil order and public safety, to enforce the law, and to investigate breaches of the law. In other words, Police is concerned with law enforcement. All societies, according to the authors, need some means of maintaining order. Albeit, Police function is to some extent universal in nature, they primarily serve to enforce Law and order in the society.*

However, a state police is a police institution established, coordinated, and controlled by a jurisdiction of a state as empowered by constitution in a federated state arrangement. The recruitment, funding and training are done by state which takes care of the community or local security peculiarities and challenges within the state.

### **Origin of Kidnapping in Nigeria**

Kidnapping siege is a global issue. Countries that have witness high incidence of kidnapping activities include; Baghdad, Mexico, Colombia, Haiti,

Brazil, Philippines, former Soviet Union, Sudan, Nigeria and South Africa to mention but a few (Thom-Otuya & Blessing, 2010). Though, scholar is yet to agree on the particular year incident of kidnapping originated in the country. People are pointing accusing figure to Niger Delta Region with different periods; 1990'S (Aham, 2009), 2005 (Thom-Otuya and Blessing, 2010), 2006, (Ugwuoke, 2011; Ngwama, 2014) respectively. Though it was alleged to have started from the South-South (Rivers, Edo, Baylesa, Cross-River, Akwa-Ibom) by militant holding oil workers hostage for ransom, kidnapping has spread to other parts of the country such as South East (Anambra, Enugu, Imo, Ebonyi and Abia) including south-west and northern part of the country with no definite period for south east.

Thom-Otuya & Blessing (2010) note that today, kidnapping is spreading like wild fire into the neighbouring South East, South West and Abuja. The ransom charged is astronomical increasing as the heinous crime gets older in the society. The high charge benefit is rested on the hard tactics by the captors to their prey. The charges now range from thousand to million even billions of naira.

Nigeria is not an exception as a federal state with many diverse ethnic inclinations with people of different cultural backgrounds. The emergence of kidnapping in the south -East of Nigeria is attributed to many factors, some analysts blame politicians that create monsters they could not control. The upsurge of violent conflict and crime during elections is a living testimony and the quest to secure victory has lured politicians to subdue their opponents through personal security called thugs, miscreants, and captors (Atupkulazi, 2009). They provide them arms, after election these hoodlums find themselves in the unemployment market and some put the gun into other uses for dirty business after elections in the country.

UN Office on Drugs and Crime (2013) survey on global crime trends, the Nigerian police recorded the following number of kidnappings at the national level between 2007-2012: 277 in 2007, 309 in 2008, 703 in 2009, 738 in 2010, NA in 2011, 600 in 2012 (United Nation, 2014). In another research by Campaign for Democracy (2012) indicates that from 2008-2012 at least about 989 (Anambra State 273, Imo State 265, Abia State 215, Enugu State 95 and Ebonyi State 90) prominent indigenes of South-East zone were allegedly kidnapped and paid ransoms valued at N1.2 billion. In the South-East Region kidnapping is seen as kidnappers' playgrounds (Ngwama, 2014). The billionaire dervish kidnapper, Chukwudumeme Onwuamadike, also known as –aka-Evans is from Anambra state (Opejobi. 2018).

### **Causes of kidnapping**

Nnamani (2015) writing on kidnapping listed the following as causes of kidnapping:

- a) Unemployment. The unemployment saga has contributed to increase kidnapping activities in the region/country as idol soul is the devils workshop.
- b) Proliferation of arms and ammunition. To get quick rich syndrome through payment of ransom, intimidation and oppression of political opponent for winning elections and furtherance of other crime are done by the mischief

through proliferation of arms and ammunition. The miscreants parade arms unlawful and threaten human existence.

- c) Quest to get rich quick due to value system
  - d) Low moral decadence in the society also promotes kidnapping activities.
- Other factors include:
- e) f. Boko Haram. The North East insurgency is increasing kidnapping activities e.g. kidnapping of school girls.
  - f) g. Maritime based militancy in the south-south by the youth demanding for total resource control through oil bunkering and kidnapping of both domestic and foreign personnel.

These evils are causing huge economic, political and social cultural negative consequences to the development of the country. Many innocent Nigerians have lost their lives and property to the hands of captors in this dirty and illegal business.

### **The imperative for State Police**

Two schools of thought exist in the debate of State Police (Protagonist and Antagonist). The argument of the Protagonist for State Police according to the Nigerian political reform conference (2014) posits that establishment of State police will complement the current efforts of the Nigeria Police Force in the following ways:

1. Intelligence gathering will be easier as the police personnel not only know the terrain and tradition of the area but speak the language and can identify the criminals.
2. That governors will abuse a State Police has no empirical evidences, given the experiences of some States to the contrary.
3. The current insurgency and continuous invasion of the north central in the country without apprehension puts the integrity of the police force to unanswered questions.
4. The establishment of State Police will not only enhance the needed cooperation and partnership but create a favorable condition between the federal and the state police.

Other scholars supporting decentralization of state police such as (Eme,et.al, 2009), Ehindero (2012), Adedeji (2012), Tamuno (1970), Alemika and Chukwuma (2012), Onwuzuligbo (2012), Abdulazeez (2002), Bulus, 2012) Falana (2015) and host of others. They believe that state policing is panacea to rescue the nation from the precipice as obtained in other developed countries in the world. Eme observes that the current United Nations Standard on 400 to 1 ratio requirement for policing has not been met in the country (Eme,et.al, 2009). Assessing the high wave of crime in the country Nwachukwu (2012) notes the police force truly speaking looks like the security institutions have been caught unprepared on the ground that there are not well trained, equipped, paid and also highly engaged in corrupt practices.

Eme (2012) asserts that peculiar security challenges in the regions differ. In the northern Nigeria religious fundamentalism persists, South (South-East;

vandalism, kidnapping, armed robbery and South-south; youth militancy and vandalism, South-west; hooliganism and *area boy*. The familiarity and people with cognate experience of the terrain will make it easier to comb and dictate the criminals in their neighborhood and security personnel will be trained according to the peculiarities of the locality in question.

However, they further argue that Nigeria as a federal state is meant to accommodate diverse and local peculiarities. The practice of decentralized policing is a *sine-qua non* to genuine principles of true federalism. They as well noted that the regional government operated direct control of regions affair with its own police structure independent of the power at the central government. For example, the native authorities were able to enforce local ordinances, byelaws, rules and regulations of the localities or municipalities over which they headed. The school also frowns at the intervention of the military in the nation's body politics that foisted a centralized police force under quasi-unitary system arrangement. They concluded that the continuous existence of central policing in Nigeria is the historical imbalance in Nigeria federalism. Nigeria with over 186 populations is too large and its heterogeneous nature calls for decentralization of police in Nigeria to avert the insecurity challenges.

### **The argument of the antagonist school of thought for State Police**

The Nigerian political reform conference (2014) notes that those who advanced for sustenance of federal police structure stated as follows:

1. Decentralized police will create room for the disintegration of the country.
2. Nigerian politicians will covert it as a tool for political intimidation of opponents pursuing and executing their political whims, nuances and caprices.
3. The state governments are not viable financially to sustain the funding of Police Force
4. The developed countries are now moving towards the establishment of centralised police.
5. There will be serious clashes in operational jurisdiction between the Federal and State Police.

The antagonists strongly conceived it as an invitation to further chaos among the agencies of security governance in the country. They vehemently lamented that not only that it will foster impunity of office and politicians possibility of constant abuse of power; it will eventual crate room for disintegration especial now different sections are seriously demanding for independence. Jonathan (2011) notes that State police may be theoretically acceptable but looking at our ugly political environment, it will spell doom security wise in the country.

### **Inadequacies of Security Outfits in South East of Nigeria**

1. **Poor Prosecution Rates.** The judiciary that tries kidnapping cases is not truly independent in the region and the country at large. The judiciary officials and governments lack the zeal and political will to implement the enacted laws in some states accordingly. It becomes a huge problem as laws are bended or



subverted to their favour by party faithful and money bag politicians, to sustain cheap political gains and selfish interest.

2. **Constitution.** The constitution did not make offence of kidnapping a death sentence but specifies number of years for imprisonment and Chief Security of the state is not fully authorized by the constitution to perform as Chief Security function in controlling the security arsenal in the state.
3. **Corrupt Practices.** The political environments in the region and the entire country where tribal and religious interests supersede national consciousness have promoted corrupt practices. Kidnapping is now a tool for achieving regional interest in the country. Eg. Chibok girls, Nuphin school girls and killing of Priest in Benue state. The various regional interests induce poor prosecution rates in kidnapping and other related crimes.
4. **Shortage of Personnel.** The security personnel in the country are under estimated compared to the population of the country. The United Nation standard ratio of 400 to 1 has not been met for a country that has over 923,768 square kilometers, and over 186 million people (NBS, 2017).
5. **Local Security Peculiarity.** The main reason for adopting a federal system is to accommodate people with different traditions, values, norms, cultures, languages and way of life and blessed with different types and quantity of natural resources. Therefore, local security peculiarities and challenges must be taken in to consideration to avert the danger of total security collapse in the region and the entire county. Wheare (1964) insists that federalism takes care of multi-linguistic and multi-religious complexity if the principle is fully applied.
6. **Poorly Equipped.** The huge security budgeting end on the news room. The reflection is not seen as crime incident get worst on the yearly basis and number of corrupt officers increased.
7. **Salary.** The salary of security personnel and unnecessary delay of their promotion as and when due does not encourage motivation and hard work. It helps to increase crime.
8. **Poorly Trained.** Intelligence gathering, forensic application is not done perfectly by some half barked police officers, some are square peg in the round hole.
9. **Poorly Structured.** The federal unitary police discourage community policing. The posting of police officers not familiar with community terrain is an invitation to furtherance of insecurity in the area.

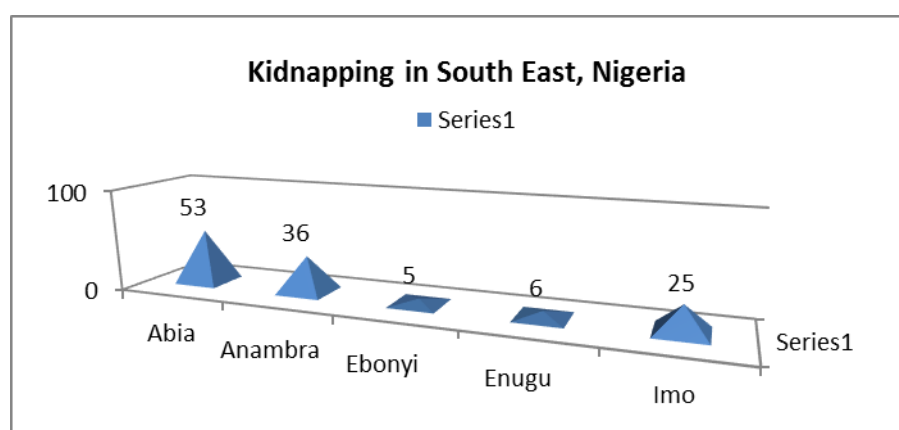
The failure recorded by the security outfits to effectively stop or respond to key security issues such as: Boko Haram insurgency, renewed Niger Delta militancy, political instability, herdsmen/farmers conflict, religious bigotry, rival between tribal groups and endemic corruption in the region and the entire country is a million dollar question begging for answer. It is a sign of big failure on the police institution in the country.

**Table 1. Crime Fatalities in South-East, Nigeria (June 2006-September, 2015)**

States	Armed	Cultis	Kidnappin	Rap	Domesti	Assassination
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	<b>Robbery</b>	<b>m</b>	<b>g</b>	<b>e</b>	<b>c</b> <b>Violence</b>	<b>/</b> <b>Thuggery/ Hooliganism</b>
Abia	107	12	53	3	5	6
Anambra	225	64	36	4	19	9
Ebonyi	35	16	5	4	24	16
Enugu	72	58	6	5	13	10
Imo	104	47	25	5	20	23
Total			125			

Source: Nigeria Watch Database

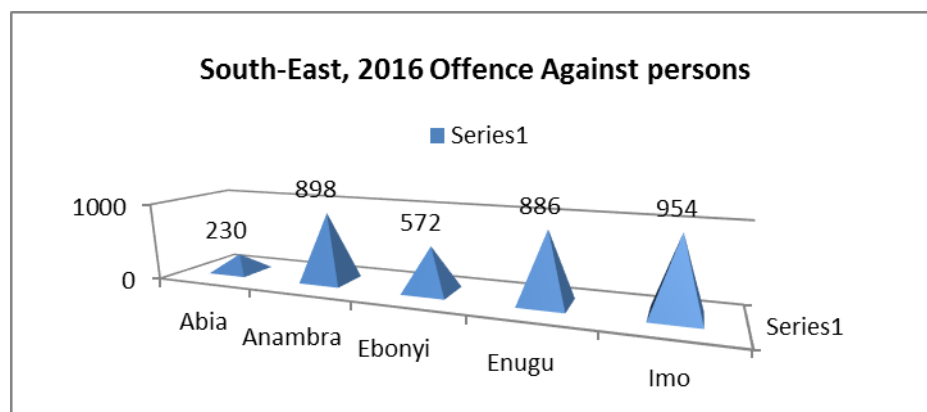


**Source:** Nigeria Watch Database but the column chart is from the author

The table 1 shows that police watch records is underestimated based on the other records available for instance research of UN Office on Drugs and Crime (2013) survey and campaign for democracy (2012), therefore, there is need for more hands that is locally based.

**Table 2. Nigeria Crime Statistics for offence against persons in South-East, 2016.**

Abia	230	Offence	Against	persons
Anambra	898	Offence	Against	persons
Ebonyi	572	Offence	Against	persons
Enugu	886	Offence	Against	persons
Imo		Offence	Against	persons



**Source:** Crime Statistics Reported Offences, (2016), but the column chart is from the author t

The above crime records in table 2 for the South-East for one year (2016) are more reliable than table 1. The offence against persons includes manslaughter, murder, infanticide, and concealment of birth, rape, kidnapping and other physical abuses.

### Liberal Class Theory

Liberal Class Theory is adopted for the study. The basic assumption is that domestic state-society relations constitute the central issue of politics (Moravcsik, 1992). The proponents of liberalism school of thought such as Barry (1987), Appleby (1992) Fawcett, (2014) etc. place a primary emphasis on the actions and interests of both individuals and groups within a state. Scholars of Liberal Class Theory believe that individuals have their own interests or calculated goals, in most cases their interests differ from that of government leader/leaders. In this context, antagonists for state police are individuals or ethnic group(s) that are milking the resources of country under centralized arrangement of police agency and fear the county's disintegration.

They believe that state police will weaken the centralized police institution in the country to the detriment of their individual or parochial interests.

### Methodology

Cross sectional survey design was used for the study. This design is justified because it requires the use of questionnaire and interview to collect data from respondents that have cognate experience and relevant information concerning the variables to assess the impact of social event understudy. The population of the study is 16,381,729 as shown in the table 3 below: **Population of South East States of Nigeria in 2006, (16,381,729).**

	<b>South-East States</b>	<b>Population</b>
1	Abia State	2,833,999
2	Anambra State	4,182,032
3	Ebonyi	2,173,501
4	Enugu	3,257,298
5	Imo	3,934,899
	<b>Total</b>	<b>16,381,729</b>

**Source:** Nigeria Population Commission, Census 2006

Krejcie & Morgan (1970) formula for determination of sample size was adopted in this empirical study. Table for determining sample size for finite population according to Krejcie & Morgan shows that number that is equal to or greater than 1,000,000, the required sample size is 384. Therefore, the sample size for 16,381,729 is 384.

After the collection of data through the use of questionnaires, the data was first presented in tables for easy understanding by simple percentage. It was used to measure parameters upon which decisions were taken on the various questions raised. The percentage was calculated based on 'Yes' or 'No.'

#### **Presentation of Data: Research Hypothesis 1**

There is a link between centralization of police at the centre and kidnapping in South-East

**Table 4: Responses of the Respondents**

S/N	Items	Total No.	Total %	Y	%	N	%
1	Centralized policing	364	100	350	96.15	16	3.85
2	Local Peculiarities differ	364	100	355	97.52	11	2.48
3	Diverse culture	364	100	360	98.90	04	1.10
4	Language differs	364	100	342	93.95	24	6.05
5	Large Population	364	100	347	95.32	17	4.68

#### **Nwoba Charles 's Field Work, (2018).**

From the table 4 above, 364 were the total questionnaire retrieved back from the respondents out of the three hundred and eighty four (384) questionnaire distributed as the sample size. The five indicators show that: the respondents pointing accusing finger on centralized policing having link with kidnapping are 350 (96.15%) respondents said Yes, while 16 of (3.85%) said No. The response on the differences

on local peculiarities, 355 (97.52%) said Yes, while 11 of (2.48 %) disagreed. 360 (98.90 %) agreed for diverse culture and 04 (1.10 %) respondents disagreed. The respondents that accepted differences in language were 342 (93.95 %) while 24 (6.05%) did not accept. lastly, on large population 347 (95.32%) respondents agreed but 17 (4.68%) disagreed.

From the analysis of data above it shows that there is a link between security, governance and kidnapping in the South East of Nigeria. This is evidence by the high rate of acceptance by respondents ranging from 93% to 98%. Therefore, the respondents that disagreed ranges from 1% to 6% indicating that there is no link between security governance and kidnapping in the South East of Nigeria is very lower. Since, 98% is greater than 6% the result is positive. The respondents accepted that there is a link between security governance and kidnapping in the South East of Nigeria.

**Table 5: Presentation of Data: Research Hypothesis 2**

There are inadequacies of security governance in controlling kidnapping in South East of Nigeria.

S/N	Items	Total No	Total %	Y	%	N	%
1	Unemployment	364	100	340	93.40	24	6.20
2	Inadequate materials	364	100	345	74.78	19	5.22
3	Poor funding	364	100	350	96.15	16	3.85
4	Inadequate training	364	100	332	91.20	32	8.40
5	Corruption	364	100	337	92.58	27	7.02

**Nwoba Charles Field Work, (2018).**

From the table 5 above, 364 were the total questionnaire retrieved back from the respondents out of the three hundred and sixty four (364) questionnaire distributed as the sample size. The five indicators show that; unemployment 340 (93.40%) respondents said Yes, while 24 of (6.20%) said No. The response on inadequate materials indicate that 345 (74.78%) said Yes, while 19 of (5.22 %) disagreed. 350 (96.15 %) agreed for poor funding and 16 (3.85 %) respondents disagreed. The respondents that accepted inadequate training were 332 (91.20 %) while 32 (8.40%) did not accept. Lastly, on corruption 337 (92.58 %) respondents agreed but 27 (7.02%) disagreed.

From the analysis of data above it shows that there is a link between security, governance and kidnapping in the South East of Nigeria. This is evidence by the high rate of acceptance by respondents ranging from 74% to 96%. Therefore, the respondents that disagreed ranges from 3.85% to 7.02% indicating that there is no link between security governance and kidnapping in the South East of Nigeria is lower.

Since, 96% is greater than 7.02% the result is positive. The respondents affirmed that there is a link between security governance and kidnapping in the South East of Nigeria.

### **Conclusion and Recommendations**

The available records show that kidnapping activity is on increase in the region. The victims of kidnapping pay through the nose to get their freedom. Many lives and property are lost to the hands of the captors in the region. The paper enumerated inadequacies of Security Governance in South East of Nigeria. There is a link between security governance and kidnapping in the South East of Nigeria. There are inadequacies of security governance and kidnapping in the South East of Nigeria. The paper further recommended that:

1. Policing should be decentralised and state police to be enshrined in the constitution and repeal the existing law on centralised policing. It should be made compulsory to all the state of the federation with time frame of 1-5 years.
2. The inadequacies of security governance and high rate of kidnapping shall be addressed with sincerity of purpose, commitments and addressing the security peculiarities and -challenges of various communities through state policing.

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