

Economic Deprivation and Willingness to Relocate among Urban Slum Dwellers in Lagos

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ABSTRACT In spite of deplorable conditions, slum dwellers have often been persistent in remaining in the so called urban hell holes. It has however been asserted that in many cases, the conditions in the slums are worse than those in the rural areas from which many migrated scholars have therefore been interested in the factors that motivate slum dwellers' willingness to remain in the slums or to relocate. In a survey (n = 383), this study explored the living conditions of the slum dwellers, their level of absolute deprivation, and the factors that motivate or impede their willingness to relocate from the slum. The results showed that deprivation and marginalization in the slum were very high. Curiously however, the results showed an insignificant negative correlation between willingness to relocate and the level of absolute deprivation. It was however shown that slum dwellers' willingness to relocate was contingent upon their social and demographic characteristics.