

Socioeconomic status of women and immunization status of under five children in northern Nigeria: A case study of poliomyelitis in Kaduna State

Oladipo Aina

Ahmadu Bello University Zaria Nigeria, Nigeria

Childhood illness plays an important role in the adverse health status of children under five years of age in northern Nigeria. Since around 1989, concerted efforts have been made to reduce the problem of infant morbidity and mortality in Nigeria, mainly through routine immunization and supplemental campaigns (door to door), and in spite of a 99% reduction in poliomyelitis prevalence worldwide, Nigeria still accounts for the highest prevalence of circulating wild polio virus in the world and the country is among the ten countries in the world with vaccine coverage below 50 percent. Mainly epidemiologic and anthropologic studies have been carried out using the NDH (National Demographic and Health) database to explicate the probable factors responsible for these poor indicators of child health, particularly in the north eastern part of Nigeria. This research, using sociological tools of investigation will attempt an interpretative, critical understanding of the socioeconomic status of women and immunization status of under fives, with particular reference to poliomyelitis, in Kaduna state, north central Nigeria.

The study was carried out in Sabongari Local Government Area of Kaduna state, north central Nigeria with an estimated population of 291,358 (NPC, 2008) among two hundred and seventy two women of childbearing age. Of these, one hundred and twenty had children who had AFP (poliomyelitis) and one hundred and fifty two women who did not have children with AFP in their households. The respondents were selected purposively using multi stage sampling procedure, by stratification.

Key words: socio-economic status, immunization status, poliomyelitis, northern Nigeria.

Biography

Oladipo Aina has completed his M.Sc and M.Res at the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria and University of Aberdeen, Scotland and presently working on his Ph.D at the University of Aberdeen Scotland. He is presently a Lecturer in the Department of Community Medicine, Ahmadu Bello University Zaria where he teaches medical students medical sociology, behavioral science and health education in addition to supervising final year medical students' projects in Community Medicine. He has published about five articles in local and international journals in addition to working as consultant to many local and international NGOs working in Nigeria in the area of public health

dip.yej2001@gmail.com