



Problems And Effects Of Local Government Retirees In Rivers State: Implication For Counselling

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ABSTRACT

This paper aimed at orientating Local Government retirees on the duties of Local Government administration and civic responsibilities. The paper identified the effect of retiree in the Local Government after service such as hardship, pains, death, loneliness and others. The paper looked at systematic counseling awareness and highlighted policy statement regarded it. The paper also discussed hardships and pains attached to Local Government retirees such as health management, loneliness and difficulties. The design of the study was descriptive survey. The population for the study comprised all the retirees in the five ministries of the state. The sample of the study consisted 4000 retirees in the Local Government Civic Services commission. These retirees were drawn through random sampling techniques. Two research questions and two hypotheses were formulated to direct the conduct of the study. The finding indicates that the Local Government retirees displayed positive effects regarding retirements. The implications revealed that both male and female have positive effects. It also revealed that Local Government retirees encounter hardship, rejection and financial difficulties towards retirement and the recommendations is that Government should ensure better life of the retirees after active service delivery to enable Local Government retirees live long as workers who have served the country meritoriously.

Keywords: Problems Effects, Retirement, Delay, Ill-Thought, Finance, Rejection.

INTRODUCTION

Chile (2015) stated that problem and effects of Local Government retirees has made workers or employees in the Local Government civil service commission to do their job with ill-feelings because of what they encountered after many years of active service. Retirees in Nigeria are under suffocation and grievous hardship as a result of delay in payment and unpaid allowance and gratuity which is the statutory right of every worker that has put in well in service in the local government and nation.

Kamalu (2018) opined that many people do their best in public sector and private sector in order to meet up the need in live but, to no avail.

Apparently, some workers are happy while doing their work, hoping to get good retirement envelop or gratuity and monthly stipends after retirement. It is obvious, that pension which is the statutory right of the workers has no conclusive value. In the light of this development, retirees suffers a lot of psychological abortions in a bid to live well as a local government retiree. In a nutshell, retirement appears to be a curse to retiree in local government sector. Some of the local government retiree had died and many living without hope regarding payment of their money. The treatment of Local Government retirees is quite alarming and disgraceful to Local Government retiree because of callousness and evil discharge of duties in the Local Government Affairs. Local Government retirees

sees day of retirement as a black time of living that encompasses ill-thinking, shock, sickness and begging.

Daniel (2019) stated that Local Government retirement is totally keeping off from active service. He also states that retirement of Local Government workers is an abomination because of ill-treatment maintained at the Local Government level. The law governing Local Government workers is not supreme. He stated that a retired Local Government worker is one who is out of service or office. Mercy (2010) opined that retirement is a time acknowledged by Government that such a person is done with his or her service year. However, every nation has a law that dictates when an active Local Government worker should leave office and immediately the time comes, the person must stay away from the office. The age stipulated by law of the local government and civil service commission to bow out is 35 years and it is a pensionable job. In this development, some of the ministries bow out at the age of 65 and 70 years respectively.

In a nutshell, some persons at the Local Government level engage into retirement without solid plan for it. These appears to be a rape of retirements and should be discouraged. Labour are not waking up to streamline the sick situation that has engulfed local government workers for a decade. Many workers delve into service and end up in regret, sickness, death and loneliness.

Piyor (2023) stated that retirement is a period were people need to be happy by retiring honorably. In pursuant to this, retiring at the local government is a time of weeping, sorry situations and health challenges. Retirement, means total withdrawal from active service. The difficulty in retiring period at Local Government is alarming and need to be avoided. He opined that life after retirements are always demeaning and sometimes led to untimely death because of the agony experiences or encountered.

Dokubo (2019) stated that it is vital to prepare for retirement to avoid psychological abortions or there social problems. Therefore, when one is fully prepared, social problems can't approach one and the person will live a life of glorifying God always and will not be perturbed about the intricacies of life.

Otakpo (2020) opined that retirement is a period of positive and negative experiences. The reasons why people forge their age certificate is because of the punishment after retirement in the Local Government. Those unholy development calls for manipulation in the civil service to remain at service. This unapable situation experienced at the Local Government can be jettison if, we can be sincere and do the needful by sanitizing local government sector and promote equity, fairness and justice.

Otakpo (2021) stated that requirement should celebrated and not be seen as sorrowful period. Consequent upon this, the prevailing corruption and wickedness that has thrown Local Government service into this mess are alarming. Corruption has eaten deep into the fabric of our society and that has collapsed all parastatal in Nigeria.

Statement of the Problem

Retirement over the years is a period of psychological occurrences or challenges to Local Government retirees. These period is a time were retirees meet their waterlows, financial challenges and ill-health. Retirement generally in Nigeria is a season of untold hardship, weeping and loneliness. The condition of retirees at the Local Government calls for pity and resuscitation because their plight is nothing to right home about. Retirees at the Local Government dies in drums because of unpaid gratuities, Arrears and other statutory right which is enshrine in the Local Government Law. The Local Government retirees empowered me to dabble into the study to investigate and suggest whether counselling before a job acceptance would help bring joy in the Local Government Sector.

Purpose of the Study

The study set out to achieve the following objectives:

1. To identify the problem of retirement towards retirees at the Local Government level.
2. To determine the effects of male and female towards retirements at the Local Government level.

Research Questions

The following research Questions were answered in this study.

1. To what extent does thinking affect male and female retirees at the Local Government?
2. To what extent does finance affect male and female retirees at Local Government?

Research Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses were raised and rested at 0.05 alpha level

1. The problem of thinking does not significantly affect male and female retirees at the Local Government.
2. The problem of finance do not significantly affect male and female at the Local Government.

METHODOLOGY

From 5000 retirees who have served in various ministries in Rivers State, 2000 retirees were drawn using random sampling techniques. Then using sampling techniques 2000 retirees were drawn from the five ministries. The instruments for data collection were problem effects of local government retirement Questionnaire designed to measure the problems and effects of local government retirement. The (PERQ) contained high sections A and B section, A elicited personal information on respondent sex and age, while section B contained 4 items which focus on problem and effects of retirement. The validities of the instrument were established with the assistance of two experts from the Nigeria local government employee (NULGE). The suggestions made by the experts were incorporated and integrated into concluded versions of the instrument. The management of the instrument were concluded through test and re test method. A sample of 2000 retirees was engaged in this preliminary study. The reliability government retirement Questionnaire sub-sections were 0.71. The data gotten from the instrument were subjected to pearson (R) analysis.

RESULTS

The results show that Local Government have positive effects on retirement.

Research Question 1

To what extent does loneliness affect male and female Local Government retiree?

Hypotheses 1

The problem of finance does not significantly affect male and female retiree.

To answer this research Question and test its corresponding null hypotheses, mean and standard deviation were involved. The results gotten are shown in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1: Men and standard deviation problem and effects of local government retirements

S/N	ITEMS	\bar{x} MALES	SD	\bar{x} FEMALES
1.	Enjoy retirement	4.50	0.7	0.44
2.	Retirement makes me to fall into sickness	4.14	0.81	4.20
3.	I learnt a lot in retirement as a local government retiree	4.28	0.86	3.40
4.	Retirement is nothing to right home about	4.13	0.18	3.47
5.	It involves weeping and sickness	5.50	5.614	10.25
	Total	04.28	5.28	10.22
	Grand mean total	4.56	0.80	0.87

Table 2 show that male and female had grand mean total (\bar{x}) of 4.25 (SD=0.81) while the females has grand mean total (\bar{x}) of 4.426 (SD = 0.87). the male was 425 (SD = 0.87) this shows male has the highest effects.

Hypothesis

The sex of the LGA retirees does not significantly influence the problem and effects of retirement. To analyze and list this hypothesis t-list statistical analysis was used.

Table 3: t-test analysis of influence of sex on problem and effects of L.G.A retirement.

Variables	N	\bar{x}	SD	t-cal	d.f	Tarit	Alpha level
Male	400	50	4.00				
Female	400	50	450	0.10	8.50	8850	0.05

This shows that t-calculated value is 0.85, while critical t-value is 0.85 at alpha of level 0.05. Therefore, the sex of the local government retirees does not significantly influence the problem and effects of problems attached with retirement.

There are numerous problem attached with local government retirement in Rivers State. Local government employee always find it difficult immediately he or she retires. Some of the headaches are as follows.

1. **Loneliness:** some Local Government employees, when out of active job, well within, friends will part them because he or she cannot offer anything to them and when such happened life becomes boring to them.
2. **Ill- health:** Reaching retirement age always inculcate poor health because of financial difficulties. Ill-health always, take advantage of retirees life. Ill-health has become a scourge association with retirees life.
3. **Loss of dignity:** Local government retirees always known for this. Having occupied a respected position and later left it will amount to disrespect. People value one when the money is there but, immediately the money is know mine, every body runs away.
4. **Finance:** It is the hallmark of everything. Retires are happy when they are in active service be they engages in some many activities and enjoy life but, as soon as retirement set in, life become miserable and difficulty because of lack of finance.

Types of retirement

Jaja (2020) asserted that we two types of namely voluntary retirement and involuntary retirement.

1. **Voluntary retirement:** the person in question decides to quit in his or her own volition for personal reasons. Irrespective of the age or years they person must have put in. these could happen because of persons interest to contest an election as assembly member or traditional ruler or pressure in working place etc.
2. **Involuntary retirement:** this is a situation in which an individual or person were forced to retire from active service. Reasons could be stealing or bad service delivery etc.

DISCUSSIONS OF FINDINGS

The data on table show that retirees have positive effect on retirement. It is a concluded issue that retirees pass through difficulties such as pains, health challenges and trauma in life. It is obvious that they do not receive their cash as at the time they needed it because of inability of government to position local government work. The unpalatable condition of local government staff has made many people to be discouragement of local government work.

The hardship encountered is an omen to the staff of local government retiree

Chile (2019) The precarious condition of local government retiree calls for proper overhauling because many that has retired 20 years ago have not received their gratuity and not hopeful of getting their statutory right. The retirees in local government wallows in pains abject poverty, psychological abortion etc.

Counselling implications:

Counsellors should delve into orientations and programmes towards retirees and help them avoid looming dangers attached to retirement at the local government.

1. Counsellors should be more close to the retirees in the society.
2. Equipped them with meaningful programmes.
3. Counsellors should work in collaboration with government to make Local Government retirees life more meaningful and relaxed.

CONCLUSION

The key of the study was to x-ray the problems and effects involved in retirement as a retiree in the Local Government.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Government should wake from slumber and stabilize the third tier of Government and ensure their pay gets to them as at when due without suffering and intimidation.

Government should endeavor to save the life of retirees of local government through prompt payment of their statutory right.

Counsellors should also swing into action by organizing programmes that will help in teaching retirees how to make life meaningful while working.

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