



Psychological Foundations underpinning Criminal Behaviour: A Mixed-Methods Inquiry in Nigerian Forensic Psychology Context

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Abstract

Criminal behaviour in Nigeria is a significant concern within forensic psychology. Understanding psychological factors contributing to criminal acts is crucial for developing effective interventions and rehabilitation programmes. A combination of qualitative interviews and quantitative surveys was employed. Data were collected from forensic settings across Nigeria's major cities, ensuring representation from diverse socio-economic backgrounds. The analysis revealed that among the interviewed offenders, 45% reported childhood trauma as a significant factor influencing their criminal behaviour. This mixed-methods study underscores the importance of addressing psychological vulnerabilities in forensic settings to improve rehabilitation outcomes and reduce recidivism. Healthcare providers and policymakers should integrate therapeutic interventions that address underlying psychological issues into existing criminal justice systems.

Keywords: *African, Multivariate, Qualitative, Quantitative, Social, Cultural, Group*

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