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# Tenement Housing and Domestic Conflict in Diobu Port Harcourt, Rivers State.

## ABSTRACT

**Aims:** To examine Tenement housing and domestic conflict among Residents in Rivers State, Nigeria  
**Study design:** Cross sectional survey design  
**Place and Duration of Study:** The study was carried out in Mile 1 and Mile 2 diobu, Port Harcourt  
**Methodology:** Triangulation methodology was used in this study to obtain insight view of the problem. Both quantitative and qualitative methods were used. In quantitative method data was collected using questionnaire and in qualitative method data was collected using FGM and interviews with respondents. Probability design involving was used simple random sampling technique was used.  
**Results:** The result revealed an existing relationship between the common use of toilet, bathroom, kitchen etc. and conflict among dwellers of tenement houses Furthermore it was revealed that there was a relationship between over population and conflict among tenement house dwellers and that there is a relationship between tenement house pattern and conflict among dwellers.  
**Conclusion:** It was concluded that a comprehensive approach should be employed to continuously check quality in housing structures and allocation. And realistic policies that will alleviate the suffering of Nigerians as it pertains to housing should be enacted and implemented

*Keywords: Tenement, conflict and Resident*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

[1] Asserts that shelter or housing is a basic human necessity. In advanced countries globally, the governments spend more of its budget on housing provision for their people, through different channels like public-private financing or even directly. [2] further buttresses that, in most Third World countries, the regard for housing is supposed to lie with the numerous governments, resulting from mode of governance, socio-economic considerations and partly, the populace's tradition. He further notes -that, in many African societies long before colonialism, housing or shelter provision was an individual responsibility, and this trend obtains presently. The government owes its citizenry the provision and delivery of good housing and security. In Nigeria, for diverse reasons, the reverse is the case [3]. The pattern of having the citizen bear the responsibility of providing

- Comment [A1]: D
- Comment [A2]: into
- Comment [A3]: With the quantitative ...and with the qualitative ...
- Comment [A4]:
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accommodation has been a recurrent . Lack of capital investment, corruption and uncaring attitude for the citizens could be other factors why the government has not taken responsibility[4].

Comment [A7]:

For clarity purposes, this study is aimed at the tenement nature of housing. The term tenement means tenancy and/or any accommodation rented. The New York State Legislature defined it in the Tenement House Act of 1867 in regards to rental occupancy by multiple households, as “any apartment, which is rented, or hired out to be used, as the residence of many families upon a floor, living, cooking and having a common right in the halls, stairways, yards, water-closets, or privies [5,6,7 8].

Tenement is a low-grade multi-family urban core accommodation, commonly taken by the underprivileged. In Scotland, it is a multi-occupancy building of any sort, and in England, especially Cornwall and Devon, it connotes an outshot part at the rear of a terraced house, having a roof of its own[9].

## 2 AIM OF THE STUDY

The investigation examined the rate to which tenement housing induces domestic conflict among residents. Clear-cut objectives were considered to examine the aim which included;

- i To determine if the use of privies contribute to conflict among tenement houses dwellers.
- ii.To determine if over population contribute to conflict among tenement house dwellers.
- iii.To discover if tenement house pattern contributes to conflict among dwellers.

## 3 Research Hypothesis

- i. There is no significant relationship between common use of privies and conflict among dwellers of tenement houses.
- ii. There is no significant relationship between conflict and population among tenement house dwellers.
- iii. There is no significant relationship between tenement house pattern and conflict among residents.

## 4. STUDY AREA

The study area was tenement settlement areas in Mile 1 and Mile 2, Diobu, Port Harcourt. Diobu is a densely populated neighbourhood of Port Harcourt, Rivers State, within the Port Harcourt metropolis. According to Fred (2013), the locality is known for its soccer talents and has produced locally and internationally known players like Finidi George, Taribo West and Joseph Yobo. Diobu hosted on March 29, 2012 the 25th Most Beautiful Girl in Nigeria Zonal screening [10]

Comment [A8]: Inconsistent with style being followed

57 Diobu comprises of three main extensions, which are: Mile 1, Mile 2 and Mile 3. It is surrounded by New  
58 **Government Residential Area (GRA)** to the north, D-line to the northeast, Rivers State University of Science  
59 and Technology to the north-west, Old GRA to the east, Kidney Island to the south-east, and Eagle Island to the  
60 south-west. Diobu coordinates are: 4°47'24"N, 6°59'36"E (Latitude:4.772152; Longitude:6.994514). [10]

## 63 5. METHODOLOGY

### 67 5.1 Population of the Study

68 The study population comprised of adult men and women between the ages of 18 and 60 years who live in  
69 tenement residential houses in Diobu, Port Harcourt. The populace of Diobu with reference to the 2006 census  
70 figure stand at 5,000.

Comment [A9]: s

### 72 5.2 Sample and Sampling Technique

73 **Mixed methodology was adopted by the researcher to conduct the study .The quantitative data was collected**  
74 **deploying questionnaires and qualitative data was collected using** (interviews and focus group meetings) with  
75 people selected by simple random sampling method (controlled conditions were created to see that everybody in  
76 the population hasd the same opportunity or chance of being captured in the sample, e.g. by way of writing  
77 names of the elements on pieces of paper, folding the papers and putting them in one container and making the  
78 people to pick them, i.e. balloting. [4] The sampling procedure adopted involvesd developing a questionnaire  
79 defined by the residents of the selected areas based on the years of residence, size/number of rooms, family size,  
80 the population of the compound, common use of facilities and challenges emanating from individual/family  
81 differences among residents. The respondents interviewed from the selected areas ~~did~~ cut across the different  
82 socioeconomic levels and ethnic/religious affinityies. Their responses to the interview and repliesd to the  
83 ~~interviews and~~ questionnaires of the researcher were gathered and with the results collated and reviewed.

84 The minimum sample size for the study was estimated using simple percentage. As Diobu's population is 5,000;  
85 we hence took 14% of that population. Thus,

$$87 \frac{14}{100} \times 5,000 = 700$$

88 100

89  
90 Sample size is = **700 persons**

This sample size of 700 was considered robust enough to justify a 14% non-response or inappropriate entry and for the conduct of additional statistical analysis that was needed in the study. Out of 700, only 673 were correctly filled and retrieved.

## 6. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Research Question One: 1.** How can common use of toilet, bathroom, kitchen etc. contribute to conflict among dwellers of tenement houses?

**Table 6.1-** Mean scores of participants on how common use of toilet, bathroom, kitchen etc. could contribute to conflict among dwellers of tenement houses

| S/N | How common use of privies contribute to conflict among dwellers of tenement houses?        | Men       |                 | Women     |                 | Mean set | Decision |
|-----|--|-----------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|----------|----------|
|     |  | $\bar{x}$ | SD <sub>1</sub> | $\bar{x}$ | SD <sub>2</sub> |          |          |
| 1.  | Mingling with different types of characters  | 3.98      | 0.134           | 3.93      | 0.259           | 3.96     | Agreed   |
| 2.  | No privacy   | 3.60      | 0.490           | 3.90      | 0.295           | 3.75     | Agreed   |
| 3   | Noise pollution e.g. blasting of music at odd hours, children's noise and generator sounds | 3.60      | 0.490           | 3.90      | 0.295           | 3.75     | Agreed   |
| 4   | Child vulnerability to abuse   | 2.70      | 0.557           | 3.09      | 0.665           | 2.89     | Agreed   |
| 5   | Limited number of conveniences   | 3.98      | 0.134           | 3.93      | 0.460           | 3.96     | Agreed   |
|     | Aggregate Mean   | 3.57      | 0.361           | 3.75      | 0.388           | 3.57     | Agreed   |

SOURCE: [11]

Data in Table 6.1 presents the mean scores and standard deviation (SD) of participants on how common use of toilet, bathroom, kitchen etc. contribute to conflict among dwellers of tenement houses. The respondents agreed to all the items with mean scores greater than the criterion mean of 2.5. The aggregate mean scores of 3.57 for men and 3.75 for women showed that common use of toilet, bathroom, kitchen etc. could add to conflict among dwellers of tenement houses and this are Mingling with dissimilar types of characters; lack of privacy, noise

109 pollution e.g. blasting of music at odd hours, children's noise and generator sounds, child vulnerability to abuse  
 110 and limited number of conveniences respectively.

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 112 **Research-question-two Research Question Two: 2.:** How can over population contribute to conflict among  
 113 tenement house dwellers?

114 Table 6.2: Mean scores of participants on how over population could contribute to conflict among tenement  
 115 house dwellers.

| S/N | How over population could contribute to conflict among tenement house dwellers. | Men       |                 | Women     |                 | Mean set | Decision  |
|-----|---|-----------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|----------|-----------|
|     |   | $\bar{x}$ | SD <sub>1</sub> | $\bar{x}$ | SD <sub>2</sub> |          |           |
| 1.  | Inadequate infra-structure  | 1.59      | 0.758           | 1.56      | 0.732           | 1.58     | Disagreed |
| 2   | Misrepresentation   | 3.78      | 0.456           | 3.58      | 0.495           | 3.68     | Agreed    |
| 3   | Back-biting   | 3.88      | 0.329           | 3.63      | 0.483           | 3.76     | Agreed    |
| 4   | Clashes between children  | 3.09      | 0.289           | 3.02      | 0.268           | 3.06     | Agreed    |
| 5   | Threat to parties' interests and concerns (e.g. amorous relationships)          | 3.90      | 0.307           | 3.68      | 0.467           | 3.79     | Agreed    |
| 6   | Envy  | 3.22      | 1.262           | 3.69      | 0.834           | 3.46     | Agreed    |
| 7.  | Uncooperative attitudes   | 3.51      | 0.501           | 3.63      | 0.484           | 3.57     | Agreed    |
| 8   | Non-settlement of bills   | 3.72      | 0.447           | 3.83      | 0.374           | 3.78     | Agreed    |
|     | Aggregate mean  | 3.34      | 0.544           | 3.33      | 0.517           | 3.34     | Agreed    |

116 SOURCE:[11]

117 Data in **T**able 6.2 presents the mean scores and standard deviation (SD) of participants on how over population  
 118 could contribute to conflict among tenement house dwellers. The respondents agreed to all the items with mean  
 119 scores greater than the criterion means of 2.5 except for item one which is: Inadequate infra-structure:  
 120 bathroom, toilet, kitchen, etc.). However, the aggregate mean scores of 3.34 for men and 3.33 for women  
 121 showed that over population could add to conflict among tenement house dwellers in ways **such as** :  
 122 Misrepresentation, Back-biting, Clashes between children, threat to parties' concerns and interests (e.g.  
 123 amorous relationships); envy, uncooperative attitudes and non-settlement of bills.

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127 | ~~Research question three~~ **Research Question Three: 3:** How can tenement house pattern contribute to  
 128 **conflict among residents?**

129 **Table 6.3** Mean scores of participants on how tenement house pattern contributes to conflict among residents.

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| S/N | How tenement house pattern contributes to conflict among residents                              | Men       |                 | Women     |                 | Mean set | Decision |
|-----|---|-----------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|----------|----------|
|     |   | $\bar{x}$ | SD <sub>1</sub> | $\bar{x}$ | SD <sub>2</sub> |          |          |
| 1   | Parents overreaction towards child protection   | 3.67      | 0.507           | 3.61      | 0.536           | 3.64     | Agreed   |
| 2   | Exposure to immoral and delinquent behaviours   | 3.38      | 0.522           | 3.51      | 0.501           | 3.45     | Agreed   |
| 3   | Problems of joint payment of utility bill e.g. NEPA   | 3.80      | 0.404           | 3.77      | 0.419           | 3.79     | Agreed   |
| 4   | Non-cooperation from some tenants toward cleaning of conveniences and sweeping of the compound. | 3.64      | 0.518           | 3.59      | 0.492           | 3.62     | Agreed   |
| 5   | Gossips from nosy neighbours  | 3.04      | 0.871           | 3.17      | 0.798           | 3.11     | Agreed   |
| 6   | Over dependent neighbours   | 2.92      | 0.599           | 3.28      | 0.608           | 3.1      | Agreed   |
|     | Aggregate mean  | 3.41      | 0.652           | 3.49      | 0.637           | 3.45     | Agreed   |

131

132 SOURCE: [11]

133 | Data in ~~Table~~ Table 6.3 presents the mean scores and standard deviation (SD) of women and men on how tenement  
 134 house pattern contributes to conflict among residents. The respondents agreed to all the items with mean scores  
 135 greater than the criterion mean of 2.5. The aggregate mean scores of 3.41 for men and 3.49 for women  
 136 displayed the rate to which tenement house pattern contributes to conflict among residents are through: Parents  
 137 overreaction towards child protection; exposure to immoral and delinquent behaviours; problems of joint  
 138 payment of utility bill e.g. NEPA; non-cooperation from some tenants toward cleaning of conveniences and  
 139 sweeping of the compound; gossips from nosy neighbours and over dependent neighbours respectively.

#### 140 **Test of Hypotheses**

141 **Hypotheses one:** There is no important relationship between common use of toilet, bathroom, kitchen etc. and  
 142 conflict among dwellers of tenement houses.

143

144 **Table 6.4:** Z-test Relationship between common use of toilet, bathroom, kitchen etc. and conflict among  
145 dwellers of tenement houses.

146

| Status | N   | $\bar{x}$ | SD    | Df  | z-calculated value | Critical value | Decision |
|--------|-----|-----------|-------|-----|--------------------|----------------|----------|
| Men    | 349 | 3.75      | 0.361 | 671 | 2.029              | $\pm 1.96$     | Reject   |
| Women  | 324 | 3.75      | 0.388 |     |                    |                |          |

147

148 SOURCE: [11]

149 Data in table 6.4 presented the Z-test dissimilarity between mean scores of participants on the relationship  
150 between common use of toilet, bathroom, kitchen etc. and conflict among dwellers of tenement houses.

151 The Z-calculated value of 2.029 is higher than the critical value of  $\pm 1.96$  at 0.05 alpha significant level.  
152 Therefore, the null hypothesis is unaccepted. This infers that, there is a relationship between the mean scores of  
153 men and women on the relationship between common use of toilet, bathroom, kitchen etc. and conflict among  
154 dwellers of tenement houses.

155 **Hypotheses two:** There is no significant relationship between over population and conflict among tenement  
156 house dwellers.

158 **Table 6.5:** Z-test Relationship between over population and conflict among tenement house dwellers.  
159

160

| Status | N   | $\bar{x}$ | SD    | Df  | z-calculated value | Critical value | Decision |
|--------|-----|-----------|-------|-----|--------------------|----------------|----------|
| Men    | 349 | 3.34      | 0.544 | 671 | 2.04               | $\pm 1.96$     | Reject   |
| Women  | 324 | 3.33      | 0.517 |     |                    |                |          |

161

162 SOURCE: [11]

163 Data in table 6.5 presented the Z-test dissimilarity between the mean scores of men and women on over  
 164 population and conflict among tenement house dwellers. The Z-calculated value of 2.04 is greater than the  
 165 critical value of  $\pm 1.96$  at 0.05 alpha significant level. Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected. This means that,  
 166 there is a difference between the mean scores of men and women on over population and conflict among  
 167 tenement house dwellers.

Comment [A10]: T , consistency neededs

168 **Hypotheses three:** There is no significant relationship between tenement house pattern and conflict among  
 169 residents.

171 **Table 6.6:** Z-test Relationship between tenement house pattern and conflict among residents.

| Status | N   | $\bar{x}$ | SD    | df  | Z-calculated value | Critical value | Decision |
|--------|-----|-----------|-------|-----|--------------------|----------------|----------|
| Men    | 349 | 2.88      | 0.657 | 671 | -2.008             | $\pm 1.96$     | Reject   |
| Women  | 324 | 2.98      | 0.637 |     |                    |                |          |

173 SOURCE: [11]

174 Data in table 4.6 presented the Z-test difference between the mean scores of men and women on how tenement  
 175 house pattern contributes to conflict among residents. The Z-calculated value of -2.008 is greater than the  
 176 critical value of  $\pm 1.96$  at 0.05 alpha significant level. Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected. This infers that,  
 177 a significant difference exists on how tenement house pattern contributes to conflict among residents.

179 **6.1 Summary of Findings**

180 1 Common use of toilet, bathroom, kitchen etc. contribute to conflict among dwellers of tenement houses in  
 181 different ways and they include mingling with various kinds of characters; absence of privacy, noise pollution,  
 182 for example, eg blasting of music at odd hours, children's noise and generator sounds, child vulnerability to  
 183 abuse and few numbers of inadequate places of -conveniences respectively.

Comment [A11]: s

184 2. Over-population could contribute to conflict among tenement house dwellers in many ways which include:  
 185 misrepresentation, clashes amongst children, threat to parties' concerns and interests (e.g. amorous  
 186 relationships)

187 3. Tenement house pattern contributes to conflict among residents through Parents overreaction towards child  
 188 protection; exposure to immoral and delinquent behaviours; problems of joint payment of utility bill, -e.g. to



189 Port Harcourt Electricity Distribution Company (PHED); non-cooperation ~~offrom~~ some tenants ~~in-toward~~  
190 cleaning of places of conveniences (toilets/washrooms) and sweeping of the compound; gossips from nosy  
191 neighbours and over dependent neighbours respectively.

Comment [A12]: ?

192 4. There is an existing relationship between common use of toilet, bathroom, kitchen etc. toilet, bathroom,  
193 kitchen etc. and conflict among dwellers of tenement houses.

194 5. There is a relationship between over population and conflict among tenement house dwellers.

195 6. There is a relationship between tenement house pattern and conflict among residents.

## 197 6.2 Focus Group Discussion and KII

198 The section below is a detailed transcription of the Focus Group discussion/interview done by the investigator  
199 with a group of residents, KII.

200  
201 **6.2.1: Section A:** Common use of toilets, bathrooms and kitchens and contribution to conflict among dwellers  
202 of tenement houses.

203 It should be noted that living in tenement apartments come with challenges of various categories. Findings from  
204 this study go further to emphasize that in tenement houses, challenges of loss of privacy, over population and  
205 house pattern faced by dwellers exists. Discussants in an FGD affirmed:

206 There are challenges we encounter living in apartments like we have in Diobu.

207 This range from interacting with and managing difficult neighbours to as little as  
208 airing our opinions to ourselves outside.

209  
210 FGD 1, 2-Males and 1-Female Compound Residents Aged 18 years and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in  
211 Diobu.

212 Another group goes further to affirm:

213 You are not at liberty to speak your mind freely outside (compound) owing to the  
214 speed at which information moves via the gossip channel.

215

216 FGD 2, 2-Males Compound Residents Age 18 and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in Diobu. Another  
217 discussant noted on utilities:

Comment [A13]: Do well

218 Getting water – fetching water for home use is a challenge. The tap within works  
219 only when someone remembers to on the water pump when light is on, because  
220 the pump is manually operated not automatic. If light is available, and water does  
221 not get pumped, and they run out of water; and the light is off, they are left with  
222 no choice but to buy water from public tap. it is stressful buying frequently since  
223 frequent power supply is already an issue in many parts of Nigeria.

224  
225 FGD 3, 4-Males and 2-Females Compound Residents Age 18 and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in  
226 Diobu.;

Comment [A14]: ?

227 A care-free attitude displayed by landlords and tenement housing owners towards the repeated complaints of  
228 their tenants also spurs up booths of conflict. Respondents confirm as follows:

229 Reports about non-complaint tenants have often been presented to the brought to  
230 the disciplinary committee and landlord for disciplinary actions but all these have  
231 fallen on deaf ears. Dem no care.

232  
233 FGD 3, 4-Males and 2-Females Compound Residents Age 18 and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in  
234 Diobu.

Comment [A15]:

235 Low sense of privacy among residents as a challenge they face living in tenement houses has ensued in  
236 indifference among them as elucidated by respondents, below:

237 People especially females who are jobless sit down all day gossiping and  
238 spreading rumours about others. Residents who are returning from their primary  
239 places of assignments in the evenings are monitored closely by this group (mostly  
240 when they have handy packages).

241  
242 FGD 3, 4-Males and 2-Females Compound Residents Age 18 and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in  
243 Diobu.

Comment [A16]:

244 None payment of utility bills as at when due is a challenge to the complaint tenants and thus a root cause of  
245 conflict. Respondents affirm this as is seen below:

246 If a tenant cannot meet up with payment of NEPA bills, these NEPA workers just  
247 come at a time of the day when those who can represent the compound are at our  
248 work stations. They go ahead and disconnect the light from the general source.

249

250

### 251 **6.2.2 Section B: Over population and conflict among tenement house dwellers.**

252 It is an established fact that conflict may occur when there are people from different backgrounds living  
253 together or coming together for the same purpose. What can you say are the causes of conflict in your  
254 compound of residence? The following responses ensued from discussants:

255 For here we dey live, plenty things dey cause problem. We disagree and  
256 sometimes even fight when our rights as tenants are trampled upon or not  
257 respected.

258 FGD 1, 2-Males and 1-Female Compound Residents Age 18 and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in Diobu.

Comment [A17]:

259 Overcrowding in tenement houses cannot be under-emphasized as a major fuel for conflict among tenement  
260 housing dwellers. The natural craves for space for human day-to-day activities showcases this need. Hence the  
261 fight over a crowded living space. Discussants reiterated as follows:

262 The standard of living experienced here is really poor as there are not less than 8  
263 persons on the average living in poorly ventilated apartments with not enough  
264 living space to express their personal needs.

265 FGD 1, 2-Males and 1-Female Compound Residents Age 18 and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in Diobu.

266 One discussant particularly expatiated on the overcrowding dilemma:

267 The government has a low-cost housing scheme that was prepared for government  
268 workers at a particular service grade/level but these houses have not been given to  
269 those persons that are entitled for it to them . This has led to overcrowding of the  
270 vicinity we live in while we wait for when the administration will ask us to  
271 occupy these houses.

272 FGD 1, 1-Female Compound Resident Age 18 and above, Dweller of tenement houses in Diobu.

Comment [A18]: ?

273 Going directly to defaulters to question them about an inappropriate act leads to conflict among dwellers  
274 especially when one lacks the authority to question them.

275           Insults arise from my neighbours once directly asked the reasons for non-  
276           complying with set regulations and rules. Abusive names like – busybody have  
277           been employed to classify those well-meaning neighbours who go to ask their  
278           defaulting neighbour's questions.

279

280 FGD 2, 2-Males and 4-Females Compound Residents Age 18 and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in Diobu

Comment [A19]:

281 So the method/approach used in addressing issues of the negligence of duties and non-compliance has an active  
282 duty to play in fueling conflict among dwellers. Also not complying with the set rules the compound regulations  
283 is usually the major cause of conflict among tenement housing residents.

284 Conflicts among dwellers also arise in the way of carrying out sanitation and Cleaning of utilities according to  
285 set down schedules. According to discussants:

286           Challenges arise when people refuse doing what they are expected to do.  
287           Example, if the turn comes for a certain household in the compound to carry out  
288           sanitation (cleaning the toilet/bathroom and toilets) and they default, the gossip  
289           rate among others is increased and which thus lead to heated arguments.

290 FGD 1, 2-Males and 1-Female Compound Residents Age 18 and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in Diobu.

291 Though on the opposing, other tenants had this to say:

292           Sharing these conveniences do not lead to any form of quarrel because duty  
293           roasters are appropriately followed by persons responsible for clean-up.

294 FGD 3, 1-Male and 1-Female Compound residents, Age 18 and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in Diobu.

Comment [A20]: ??

295 Religious/Inter-denominational wars are being fought around the world as evidenced among residents of this  
296 sort of housing. They said:

297           Some mini church services called “home cells” belonging to different churches  
298           hold in some houses within our area of residence and they sometimes constitute a

299 kind of noise pollution as when one is to be resting, the echo of musical  
300 instruments and raised voices tends to dispel the sleep.

301 FGD 2, 4-Males and 2-Females Compound Residents Age 18 and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in  
302 Diobu.

Comment [A21]:

303 Findings from this research emphasize that their off springs are also a cause of conflicts among parents in  
304 tenement houses. This is described by the replies of few discussants:

305 Children are known to play a lot and sometimes be rough towards themselves but  
306 some are well trained with proper upbringing. So correcting younger persons in a  
307 manner that shows no love can attract the wrath of their owners (parents)

309 FGD 2, 2-Females Compound Residents, Aged 18 and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in Diobu.

Comment [A22]:

310 Of interest is the practice of hanging clothes are hung out on the clothesline to dry after they are washed. This  
311 has added to inducing conflict among tenement housing residents. As affirmed by some interviewees:

312 Touching of others' people's clothing wears that has been hung on the clothesline  
313 to dry after be~~ing~~en washed is not an experience to be smiled at. It has been  
314 frowned at~~on~~ because this ensues in~~causes~~ staining of the clothes, wears especially  
315 the whites coloured-wears.

317 FGD 1, 2-Males and 4-Females Compound residents, Aged 18 and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in  
318 Diobu.

319 If I dry my clothes on the rope and someone pushes them (my clothes) to the side  
320 to spread theirs, I just throw theirs on the ground, re-spread mine and go my way.

322 FGD 1, 1-Male Compound resident, Age 18 and above, Dweller of tenement houses in Diobu:

Comment [A23]:

323 Some victims of this practice go to the extent as calling the awareness of family members to witness the ill-  
324 treatment they are receiving from fellow tenants.

325 If I discover that such has been done to the clothes I hang to dry, I just tap on the  
326 individuals door who mal-handled my clothes and calls their attention to it,

327 hoping it was an oversight. I try to have a conversation to such person to the best  
328 of my ability and if he/she proves to be stubborn, I would immediately call their  
329 family members to witness the ill treatment but in a very aggressive manner this  
330 time.

331 FGD 1, 1-Female Compound resident, Age 18 and above, Dweller of tenement houses in Diobu.

### 332 **6.2.3: Section C: Tenement House Pattern Contributing to Conflicts Among Residents**

333 From previous literature, it has been an observed trend that housing patterns have a major contributory role to  
334 play in fueling conflict among tenants. This research goes further to buttress this fact as discussants in the FGD  
335 gave their various views:

336 12 households live in this compound; each household has their own space in a  
337 commonly shared kitchen. There are 3 toilets and 3 bathrooms of which 4  
338 households use same toilet/bathroom and crisis arise on the occasion of misuse of  
339 the facilities.

340 FGD 3, 1 Male, Compound resident, Age 18 and above, Dweller of tenement houses in Diobu.

341 Repair/replacement of dilapidated housing accessories by the landlord or property owner has been mentioned to  
342 be a major frontier to sparking conflicts among residents and both their respective landlords. A respondent  
343 particularly affirmed this:

344 Our landlord is particularly interested in collecting his rent alone. The dilapidated  
345 condition of the toilets and housing amenities do not move him. We the occupant  
346 carry out repairs of these amenities on our own and we are never refunded.

347 FGD 3, 1 Female, Compound resident, Age 18 and above, Dweller of tenement houses in Diobu

Comment [A24]:

348 Compound tightly structured with no spaces to park cars, have been a contributory factor to conflicts caused  
349 resulting in the housing pattern.

350 Of the 11 households who reside in this compound, only 2 of are car owners and  
351 the space designated as car park can only contain one car at a time. So whoever  
352 comes home first gets to park his car in that space. The other person has no choice  
353 but to park on the side of the road which attracts the thieves and property  
354 vandalizers.

355

356 FGD 3, 1 Male, Compound resident, Age 18 and above, Dweller of tenement houses in Diobu.

Comment [A25]:

## 357 7. CONCLUSION

358

359 It was concluded that a comprehensive approach should be employed to continuously check quality in housing  
360 structures and allocation and also realistic policies that will alleviate the suffering of Nigerians as it pertains to  
361 housing should be enacted and implemented

362

363

## 364 CONSENT

365

366 As per international standard or University standard, Respondents written consent has been collected and  
367 preserved by the author.

368

369

## 370 ETHICAL APPROVAL

371

372 Approved consent was ~~gotten~~obtained for the respondents

373

374

## 375 COMPETING INTEREST

376

377 Author ~~has~~ declare~~s~~d that no competing interest exists

378

379

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Comment [A26]: from or for ???

Comment [A27]: Consistency in use of title case for the titles must be ensured

398

399

11. Alabogu G.I(2017) Authors Fieldwork in Diobu

Comment [A28]: ? Do well

400

401

402

APPENDIX

403

404

405

APPENDIX II  
QUESTIONNAIRE ITEMS

406

407

Section A: Demographic data

408

Instruction: kindly tick (√) the right answers

409

1. Marital status:(a)Unmarried  (b)Married  (c) Widowed

410

(d) Divorced

411

2. How old are you? How old are you? (a) Less than 20 years

412

20 – 29 years  (c) 30 – 39 years  (d) 40 – 60 years

413

(e) More than 60 years

414

3. What is your gender? (a) Male  (b) Female

415

4. Religion: (a) Christianity  (b) Islam  (c) African traditional religion  (d)

416

Atheist/non-religious

417

(e) Others (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

418

5. Social class: (a) Social class 1 (senior public servants, highly skilled professional e.g. doctors,

419

engineers, lecturers, managers, top government and business executives)

420

(b) Social class 2 (Intermediate grade public servants e.g. senior school teachers, nurses

421

technicians)

422

(c) Social class 3 (semi-skilled junior grade public servants e.g. drivers, artisans, junior clerks,

423

rank and files of the police)

424

(d) Social class 4 (Unskilled e.g. petty traders, labourers, messengers etc.)



(e) Social class 5 (Unemployed e.g. full time house wives, students, subsistence farmers)

6. Tribe: (a) Yoruba  (b) Ikwerre  (c) Hausa

(d) Ibo

(e) Others (Please Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

### SECTION B: QUESTIONNAIRE ITEMS

SA= strongly agree, A=Agree, D=Disagree, SD=strongly disagree

| S/N | Challenges encountered by residents of tenement houses                             | SA | A | SD | D |
|-----|--|----|---|----|---|
| 1.  | Mingling with different types of characters  |    |   |    |   |
| 2.  | No privacy   |    |   |    |   |
| 3.  | Noise pollution e.g. blasting of music at odd hours, children and generator sounds |    |   |    |   |
| 4.  | child vulnerability to abuse   |    |   |    |   |
| 5.  | Limited number of conveniences   |    |   |    |   |

| S/N | Causes of conflict among tenement house residents   | SA | A | SD | D |
|-----|---|----|---|----|---|
| 1   | Inadequate infra-structure: bathroom, kitchen, toilet, etc.)  |    |   |    |   |
| 2   | Misrepresentation (carrying rumours, and unfounded stories)   |    |   |    |   |
| 3   | Back-biting (group of people maliciously discussing others)   |    |   |    |   |
| 4   | Clashes between children (disagreement between children leading to conflicts amongst their parents) |    |   |    |   |
| 5   | Threat to parties' interests and concerns (e.g. amorous relationships)                              |    |   |    |   |
| 6.  | Envy (jealous of little success or better assets)   |    |   |    |   |
| 7.  | Uncooperative attitudes (in cleaning the common parts, etc)   |    |   |    |   |
| 8.  | Non-settlement of bills (electricity, and community levies)   |    |   |    |   |

437

| S/N | How tenement house pattern contributes to conflict among residents                              | SA | A | SD | D |
|-----|---|----|---|----|---|
| 1.  | Parents overreaction towards child protection   |    |   |    |   |
| 2.  | Exposure to immoral and delinquent behaviours   |    |   |    |   |
| 3.  | Problems of joint payment of utility bill eg NEPA   |    |   |    |   |
| 4.  | Non-cooperation from some tenants toward cleaning of conveniences and sweeping of the compound. |    |   |    |   |
| 5.  | Gossips from nosy neighbors   |    |   |    |   |
| 6.  | Over dependent neighbors  |    |   |    |   |

438



439

440 **PLATE ONE**441 **A Picture of Typical Tenement Houses (face me I face you ) in Diobu, Port Harcourt**442 **Photo Credit: ALAGBOGU, GLORIA IFEYINWA**443 **19<sup>th</sup> April, 2017**



444

445 **PLATE TWO**

446 **A Picture of a Typical Narrow Corridor of Tenement Houses (face me i face you) in Diobu, Port**  
447 **Harcourt**

448 **Photo Credit: ALAGBOGU, GLORIA IFEYINWA**

449 **19<sup>th</sup> April, 2017.**



450

451

452 **PLATE FOUR**

453 **Another Overview of Tenement Houses in Mile 2, Diobu, Port Harcourt**

454 **Photo Credit: ALAGBOGU, GLORIA IFEYINWA**

455 **19<sup>th</sup> April, 2017**