

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

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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 into the problem. Both quantitative and qualitative methods were used. With the quantitative method data were collected using questionnaire and with the qualitative method data was collected using FGM and interviews with respondents. Probability design involving a simple random sampling technique was used.

Results: The result revealed an existing relationship between the common use of the toilet, bathroom, kitchen etc. and conflict among dwellers of tenement houses. Furthermore it was revealed that there was a relationship between overpopulation 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. Also, 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 the 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

25 reasons, the reverse is the case [3]. The pattern of having the citizens bear the responsibility of providing their
26 accommodation has been recurrent. Lack of capital investment, corruption and uncaring attitude for the citizens
27 could be other factors why the government has not taken responsibility[4].

28 For clarity purposes, this study is aimed at the tenement nature of housing. The term tenement means tenancy
29 and/or any accommodation rented. The New York State Legislature defined it in the Tenement House Act of
30 1867 in regards to rental occupancy by multiple households, as "an apartment, which is rented, or hired out to
31 be used, as the residence of many families upon a floor, living, cooking and having a common right in the halls,
32 stairways, yards, water-closets, or privies [5,6,7 8].

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

36 **2 AIM OF THE STUDY**

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

- 39 i To determine if the use of privies contribute to conflict among tenement houses dwellers.
- 40 ii. To determine if overpopulation contributes to conflict among tenement house dwellers.
- 41 iii. To discover if the tenement house pattern contributes to conflict among dwellers.

43 **3 Research Hypothesis**

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

50 **4. STUDY AREA**

51 The study area was tenement settlement areas in Mile 1 and Mile 2, Diobu, Port Harcourt. Diobu is a densely
52 populated neighbourhood of Port Harcourt, Rivers State, within the Port Harcourt metropolis. According to
53 Fred (2013), the locality is known for its soccer talents and has produced locally and internationally known
54 players like Finidi George, Taribo West and Joseph Yobo. Diobu hosted on March 29, 2012, the 25th Most
55 Beautiful Girl in Nigeria Zonal screening [10]
56

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

5. METHODOLOGY

5.1 Population of the Study

The study population comprised of adult men and women between the ages of 18 and 60 years who live in tenement residential houses in Diobu, Port Harcourt. The populace of Diobu concerning the 2006 census figure stands at 5,000.

5.2 Sample and Sampling Technique

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

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

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

100

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 the toilet, bathroom, kitchen etc. contribute to conflict among dwellers of tenement houses?

Table 6.1: Mean scores of participants on how common use of the 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 ₁	\bar{x}	SD ₂		
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	A 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 the 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 is Mingling with dissimilar types of characters; lack of

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

111
 112 **Research Question Two: 2.:** How can overpopulation contribute to conflict among tenement house dwellers?

113 Table 6.2: Mean scores of participants on how overpopulation could contribute to conflict among tenement
 114 house dwellers.

S/N	How overpopulation could contribute to conflict among tenement house dwellers.	Men		Women		Mean set	Decision
		\bar{x}	SD ₁	\bar{x}	SD ₂		
1.	Inadequate infrastructure	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	The 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

115 SOURCE:[11]

116 Data in Table 6.2 presents the mean scores and standard deviation (SD) of participants on how overpopulation
 117 could contribute to conflict among tenement house dwellers. The respondents agreed to all the items with mean
 118 scores greater than the criterion means of 2.5 except for item one which is: Inadequate infra-structure:
 119 bathroom, toilet, kitchen, etc.). However, the aggregate mean scores of 3.34 for men and 3.33 for women
 120 showed that overpopulation could add to conflict among tenement house dwellers in ways **such as**
 121 Misrepresentation, Back-biting, Clashes between children, threat to parties' concerns and interests (e.g. amorous
 122 relationships); envy, uncooperative attitudes and non-settlement of bills.

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 124
 125

Research Question Three: 3.: How can the tenement house pattern contribute to conflict among residents?

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

S/N	How tenement house pattern contributes to conflict among residents	Men		Women		Mean set	Decision
		\bar{x}	SD ₁	\bar{x}	SD ₂		
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

SOURCE: [11]

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

Test of Hypotheses

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

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

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

SOURCE: [11]

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

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

Hypotheses two: There is no significant relationship between overpopulation and conflict among tenement house dwellers.

Table 6.5: Z-test Relationship between overpopulation and conflict among tenement house dwellers.

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

SOURCE: [11]

Data in Table 6.5 presented the Z-test dissimilarity between the mean scores of men and women on overpopulation and conflict among tenement house dwellers. The Z-calculated value of 2.04 is greater than the

critical value of ± 1.96 at 0.05 alpha significant level. Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected. This means that there is a difference between the mean scores of men and women on overpopulation and conflict among tenement house dwellers.

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

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	± 1.96	Reject
Women	324	2.98	0.637				

SOURCE: [11]

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

6.1 Summary of Findings

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

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

3. Tenement house pattern contributes to conflict among residents through Parents overreaction towards child protection; exposure to immoral and delinquent behaviours; problems of joint payment of utility bill, e.g. to Port Harcourt Electricity Distribution Company (PHED); non-cooperation of some tenants in cleaning of places of

189 convenience (toilets/washrooms) and sweeping of the compound; gossips from nosy neighbours and over-
190 dependent neighbours.

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

193 5. There is a relationship between overpopulation and conflict among tenement house dwellers.

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

195 196 **6.2 Focus Group Discussion and KII**

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

199
200 **6.2.1: Section A:** Common use of toilets, bathrooms and kitchens and contribution to conflict among dwellers
201 of tenement houses.

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

205 There are challenges we encounter living in apartments as we have in Diobu. This
206 range from interacting with and managing difficult neighbours to as little as airing
207 our opinions to ourselves outside.

208
209 FGD 1, 2-Males and 1-Female Compound Residents Aged 18 years and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in
210 Diobu.

211 Another group goes further to affirm:

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

214
215 FGD 2, 2-Males Compound Residents Age 18 and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in Diobu. Another
216 discussant noted on utilities:

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

223
224 FGD 3, 4-Males and 2-Females Compound Residents Age 18 years and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in
225 Diobu.;

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

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

231
232 FGD 3, 4-Males and 2-Females Compound Residents Age 18 years and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in
233 Diobu.

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

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

240
241 FGD 3, 4-Males and 2-Females Compound Residents Age 18 years and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in
242 Diobu.

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

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

250 **6.2.2 Section B: Overpopulation and conflict among tenement house dwellers.**

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

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

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

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 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 years and above, Dweller of tenement houses in Diobu.

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 years and above, Dwellers of tenement houses in
281 Diobu

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

301 kind of noise pollution as when one is to be resting, the echo of musical
302 instruments and raised voices tend to dispel the sleep.

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

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

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

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

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

314 **Touching of other people's clothing hung on the clothesline to dry after being**
315 **washed is not an experience to be smiled at. It has been frowned on because this**
316 **causes staining of the clothes,** especially the whites.

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

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

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

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

326 If I discover that such has been done to the clothes I hang to dry, I just tap on the
327 individual's door who mal-handled my clothes and calls their attention to it,
328 hoping it was an oversight. I try to have a conversation to such person to the best

329 of my ability and if he/she proves to be stubborn, I would immediately call their
330 family members to witness the ill-treatment but in a very aggressive manner this
331 time.

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

333 **6.2.3: Section C: Tenement House Pattern Contributing to Conflicts Among Residents**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

358 **7. CONCLUSION**

359
360 It was concluded that a comprehensive approach should be employed to continuously check quality in housing
361 structures and allocation and also realistic policies that will alleviate the suffering of Nigerians as it pertains to
362 housing should be enacted and implemented
363

364
365 **CONSENT**

366
367 As per international standard or University standard, Respondents written consent has been collected and
368 preserved by the author.
369

370
371 **ETHICAL APPROVAL**

372
373 Approved consent was obtained from the respondents
374

375
376 **COMPETING INTEREST**

377
378 The author declares that no competing interest exists
379

380
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**APPENDIX II
QUESTIONNAIRE ITEMS**

409 Instruction: kindly tick (√) the right answers

- 410 1. Marital status:(a)Unmarried (b)Married (c) Widowed
- 411 (d) Divorced
- 412 2. How old are you? How old are you? (a) Less than 20 years
- 413 20 – 29 years (c) 30 – 39 years (d) 40 – 60 years
- 414 (e) More than 60 years
- 415 3. What is your gender? (a) Male (b) Female
- 416 4. Religion: (a) Christianity (b) Islam (c) African traditional religion (d)
- 417 Atheist/non-religious
- 418 (e) Others (please specify) _____
- 419 5. Social class: (a) Social class 1 (senior public servants, highly skilled professional e.g. doctors,
420 engineers, lecturers, managers, top government and business executives)
- 421 (b) Social class 2 (Intermediate grade public servants e.g. senior school teachers, nurses
422 technicians)
- 423 (c) Social class 3 (semi-skilled junior grade public servants e.g. drivers, artisans, junior clerks,
424 rank and files of the police)
- 425 (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.	A limited number of conveniences				

S/N	Causes of conflict among tenement house residents	SA	A	SD	D
1	Inadequate infrastructure: bathroom, kitchen, toilet, etc.)				
2	Misrepresentation (carrying rumours, and unfounded stories)				
3	Back-biting (the group of people maliciously discussing others)				
4	Clashes between children (disagreement between children leading to conflicts amongst their parents)				
5	The 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)				

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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 neighbours				
6.	Over dependent neighbours				

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441 **PLATE ONE**442 **A Picture of Typical Tenement Houses (face me I face you) in Diobu, Port Harcourt**443 **Photo Credit: ALAGBOGU, GLORIA IFEYINWA**444 **19th April 2017**



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446 **PLATE TWO**

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

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

450 **19th April 2017.**



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453 **PLATE FOUR**

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

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

456 **19th April 2017**