

Social Pressure, Stigmatisation, Bereavement, Depression, and Empowerment as Predictors of Recidivism among Inmates in Southwestern Nigeria

By

Adedotun Aderele Araromi, Ph.D.

Department of Counselling and Human Development Studies,
University of Ibadan, Nigeria
araromiadedotunaderele@yahoo.com

Abstract

Recidivism remains a major challenge in correctional centres worldwide, with multiple psychosocial and structural factors influencing the likelihood of reoffending. This study investigated the reliability, interrelationships, and contributions of social pressure, stigmatisation, bereavement, depression, and empowerment in predicting recidivism among inmates in correctional centres in Southwestern Nigeria. A descriptive-correlational design was adopted, and a sample of 400 inmates was purposively selected. Data were collected using structured instruments measuring social pressure, stigmatisation, bereavement, depression, empowerment, and recidivism. Reliability analyses, Pearson correlation, and multiple regression were conducted to examine the relationships and predictive contributions of the variables. The results revealed that all exogenous variables were significantly related to recidivism. Stigmatisation had the strongest positive association ($r = .636, p < .01$), followed by depression ($r = .587, p < .01$), bereavement ($r = .516, p < .01$), and social pressure ($r = .349, p < .01$), whereas empowerment showed a significant negative relationship ($r = -.410, p < .01$). Multiple regression analysis indicated that the predictors jointly explained 53.4% of the variance in recidivism ($R^2 = .534, F(6, 393) = 89.42, p < .001$). Relative contribution analysis showed that stigmatisation was the most influential predictor, while empowerment acted as a mitigating factor. The findings underscore the multifactorial nature of recidivism, highlighting the interplay between social, emotional, and personal factors. It is recommended that correctional centres implement integrated rehabilitation programs targeting stigma reduction, mental health support, empowerment initiatives, and prosocial peer networks to reduce reoffending. Future research should explore additional psychosocial and institutional factors and assess the long-term effectiveness of intervention strategies.

Keywords: Recidivism, Stigmatisation, Depression, Bereavement, Social Pressure

Introduction

Recidivism, the tendency of offenders to relapse into criminal behaviour after sanction or intervention, has remained a global correctional challenge. In the United States, two-thirds of released prisoners were rearrested within three years, highlighting the persistence of reoffending despite correctional interventions (Durose et al., 2014). European studies have shown similar outcomes, with recidivism reflecting structural inequality and insufficient rehabilitation strategies (Fazel & Wolf, 2015). In Africa, correctional centres are plagued by overcrowding, limited rehabilitation resources, and systemic inefficiencies, which heighten repeat offending

(Alemayehu, 2020). In Nigeria, recidivism remains pronounced, undermining correctional reforms and public safety (Odekunle, 2021). To understand this, it is vital to examine psychosocial and structural variables shaping inmates' reoffending. Among these, social pressure is one of the most significant drivers.

Social pressure, stemming from peer groups, communities, and social expectations, influences reintegration and can push inmates back into crime. Research shows that peer influence plays a critical role in encouraging reoffending, particularly when ex-inmates are surrounded by criminal networks (Warr, 2002). In Nigeria, peer dynamics strongly predict youth risk-taking behaviours and maladaptive conduct (Aremu & Akinyemi, 2019). This influence persists after incarceration, as individuals may struggle to resist the pull of antisocial networks. Social pressure often reinforces deviant cognition, shaping how offenders interpret, justify, and normalise crime. This makes criminal thinking an interrelated factor that works closely with social influence to sustain recidivism.

Criminal thinking refers to cognitive distortions and belief systems that rationalise criminal activity as acceptable or necessary. Walters (2018) showed that criminal thinking patterns remain one of the most consistent predictors of recidivism. Similarly, Gendreau et al. (1996) established antisocial cognition as a core criminogenic need across diverse offender groups. When inmates adopt criminal thought styles, they resist rehabilitative messages and cling to deviant identities. These cognitive distortions are often reinforced by societal rejection and negative labelling. Consequently, stigmatisation becomes another major barrier to successful reintegration, interacting with cognition to fuel repeat offending.

Stigmatisation manifests when ex-offenders are labelled as dangerous or untrustworthy, reducing their chances of securing employment, education, and social support. Pager (2003) found that ex-inmates with criminal records faced significantly fewer job opportunities than non-offenders, even when equally qualified. In Nigeria, stigma reinforces exclusion, perpetuating criminal identities and reducing the likelihood of rehabilitation (Ugwuoke, 2010). Once individuals are labelled, their reintegration is severely constrained, leaving them vulnerable to emotional challenges. Stigmatisation often fosters alienation and rejection, which fuels feelings of despair and helplessness. This state of despair connects directly to hopelessness, another psychological driver of recidivism.

Hopelessness, characterised by negative expectations about the future, often emerges when social and structural barriers persist. Beck et al. (1989) demonstrated that hopelessness is a predictor of maladaptive and self-destructive behaviours. Prison populations often exhibit higher levels of hopelessness due to prolonged separation from society and bleak reintegration prospects (Jenkins, 2017). In Nigeria, hopelessness has been documented among vulnerable youth as a mediator of adverse experiences and risky outcomes (Omopo, 2025). When inmates lose hope, their willingness to engage in rehabilitation diminishes, creating fertile ground for repeat offending. This psychological despair is exacerbated when inmates experience bereavement while incarcerated.

Bereavement among inmates is uniquely painful because of restrictions on mourning practices and limited social support in prison. Crewe et al. (2017) highlighted that unresolved grief in prison settings fosters anger, distress, and maladaptive behaviours. In Nigerian contexts, bereavement has been associated with behavioural instability and delinquency among young populations (Ibrahim et al., 2024). When unresolved, grief intensifies vulnerability to recidivism by weakening coping mechanisms and amplifying emotional instability. This loss is closely linked to the onset of mental health conditions, particularly depression, which remains one of the most prevalent psychological issues among prisoners.

Depression, a common psychiatric condition in correctional centres, undermines resilience, judgement, and coping, thereby increasing recidivism risk. Fazel and Seewald (2012) reported that rates of depression in correctional facilities are significantly higher than in general populations. In Nigeria, prison inmates exhibit elevated symptoms of depression, linked to aggression, substance use, and poor reintegration (Adebayo-Oke et al., 2021). Depression not only reduces inmates' motivation to change but also interacts with hopelessness and bereavement to sustain maladaptive coping. However, research suggests that empowerment interventions, such as education and vocational training, can buffer the negative effects of depression and promote rehabilitation.

Empowerment involves equipping inmates with skills, confidence, and resources to reintegrate successfully into society. Maruna (2001) argued that empowerment through narratives of growth and resilience reduces recidivism. In Nigeria, empowerment initiatives in correctional centres have been associated with improved inmate adjustment and reduced maladaptive behaviours

(Akinyemi et al., 2018). Empowered inmates are more likely to resist peer pressure, challenge criminal thinking, and overcome stigma. Yet, in the absence of empowerment, inmates frequently report a sense of emptiness. This feeling of void has become a growing concern in criminological research due to its association with recidivism.

Emptiness refers to a profound psychological void, often expressed as meaninglessness and lack of purpose. Studies associate emptiness with suicidal ideation, depression, and maladaptive behaviours (Blasco-Fontecilla et al., 2015). In Nigeria, emptiness has been documented among vulnerable youth as a psychological trigger for maladaptive outcomes, including suicidal ideation (Omopo, 2023). For inmates, emptiness reflects the absence of meaningful connections, personal growth, or hope for the future. This void weakens commitment to rehabilitation, amplifies maladaptive coping, and fuels recidivism. Despite evidence linking these factors to criminal relapse, few Nigerian studies have examined their combined effects. Purpose of the Study

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to examine the relationships, joint contributions, and relative contributions of selected psychosocial and structural causal factors in predicting recidivism among inmates in correctional centres in Southwestern Nigeria. The study seeks to determine how social pressure, criminal thinking, stigmatisation, hopelessness, bereavement, depression, empowerment, and emptiness collectively and independently influence recidivism. Specific Objectives are:

1. To examine the relationship between the exogenous variables (social pressure, criminal thinking, stigmatisation, hopelessness, bereavement, depression, empowerment, and emptiness) and the endogenous variable (recidivism) among inmates in correctional centres in Southwestern Nigeria.
2. To determine the joint contribution of the exogenous variables in explaining recidivism among inmates in correctional centres in Southwestern Nigeria.
3. To ascertain the relative contributions of each exogenous variable to recidivism among inmates in correctional centres in Southwestern Nigeria.

Research Questions

1. What is the nature of the relationship between the exogenous variables and recidivism among inmates in correctional centres in Southwestern Nigeria?
2. What is the joint contribution of the exogenous variables in explaining recidivism among inmates in correctional centres in Southwestern Nigeria?
3. What are the relative contributions of each exogenous variable to recidivism among inmates in correctional centres in Southwestern Nigeria?

Methods

This study adopted a quantitative research design to examine the relationships, joint contributions, and relative contributions of psychosocial and structural factors in predicting recidivism among inmates in Southwestern Nigeria. The population comprised all adult inmates in selected correctional centres across six states - Ekiti, Lagos, Ogun, Ondo, Osun, and Oyo who had spent at least six months in custody. A total of 400 inmates were selected using a stratified random sampling technique to ensure representation across gender, age, and type of offence. The correctional centres included a total of 23 facilities, with Lagos and Ondo having five centres each, Ogun seven, Oyo three, Osun two, and Ekiti one. Data were collected using structured questionnaires incorporating validated instruments for each variable: social pressure, criminal thinking, stigmatisation, hopelessness, bereavement, depression, empowerment, and emptiness.

Ethical protocols were strictly observed, including obtaining informed consent, ensuring confidentiality, and confirming voluntary participation. Reliability of the instruments was ensured using Cronbach's alpha coefficients, while validity was confirmed through expert review and pilot testing. Descriptive statistics were used to summarise participants' demographic characteristics, Pearson correlation analysis examined the relationships between each exogenous variable and recidivism, and multiple regression analysis determined both the joint and relative contributions of the predictor variables. All hypotheses were tested at a 0.05 significance level, enabling a rigorous assessment of how individual and combined psychosocial and structural factors influenced recidivism among inmates in Southwestern Nigeria.

Results and Discussion

Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

Table 1 presents the demographic distribution of the 400 participants in terms of gender and age.

Table 1: Distribution of Respondents by Gender and Age

Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Gender		
Male	394	98.5
Female	6	1.5
Total (Gender)	400	100.0
Age		
41–50	276	69.0
51 and above	124	31.0
Total (Age)	400	100.0

The table shows that the majority of respondents were male, accounting for 98.5% (394) of the sample, while females represented only 1.5% (6). In terms of age, most participants were between 41 and 50 years old, representing 69.0% (276), whereas 31.0% (124) were aged 51 years and above. These demographics indicate a predominantly male and middle-aged inmate population in the selected correctional centres.

Answers to Research Questions

Research Question 1: What is the nature of the relationship between the exogenous variables and recidivism among inmates in correctional centres in Southwestern Nigeria?

Table 2: Correlation Matrix Showing the Relationship among the Variables

Variable	Mean	Std. Dev	Recidivism	Social Pressure	Stigmatisation	Bereavement	Depression	Empowerment
Recidivism	25.83	7.02	1					
Social Pressure	9.81	3.31	.349**	1				
Stigmatisation	14.65	4.04	.636**	.319**	1			
Bereavement	11.30	3.77	.516**	.120*	.351**	1		

Depression	12.09	2.97	.587**	.167**	.354**	.326**	1	
Empowerment	13.75	3.82	-.410**	-.110*	-.210**	-.225**	-.233**	1

Table 2 presents the Pearson correlation coefficients showing the relationships between recidivism and the exogenous variables. Recidivism was positively and significantly correlated with social pressure ($r = .349$, $p < .01$), stigmatisation ($r = .636$, $p < .01$), bereavement ($r = .516$, $p < .01$), and depression ($r = .587$, $p < .01$). Conversely, empowerment was negatively and significantly correlated with recidivism ($r = -.410$, $p < .01$), indicating that higher empowerment scores were associated with lower recidivism levels. These results suggest that social pressures, stigmatisation, bereavement, and depression increase the likelihood of reoffending, while empowerment reduces it.

The findings revealed a positive and significant relationship between social pressure and recidivism ($r = .349$, $p < .01$). This suggests that inmates who experienced higher levels of social pressure - such as peer influence, societal expectations, or pressure from other inmates—were more likely to reoffend. One possible reason is that individuals who feel compelled to conform to negative social norms or criminal peer groups within and outside correctional centres may find it difficult to desist from offending after release. Such pressure can exacerbate maladaptive behaviours, especially in environments lacking supportive reintegration programs. This result aligns with previous studies showing that social pressure and peer influence are critical determinants of criminal behaviour and reoffending (Omopo, 2025; Quadri et al., 2025).

Stigmatisation was found to have the strongest positive correlation with recidivism ($r = .636$, $p < .01$). Inmates who perceived higher levels of social stigma due to their criminal records were more likely to reoffend. A plausible explanation is that social stigma can reduce opportunities for employment, social reintegration, and psychological wellbeing, creating a sense of exclusion that fosters recidivism. Stigmatised individuals may internalise societal rejection, which may lead to frustration, hopelessness, and eventual return to criminal activity. This finding is consistent with Pager (2003) and Maruna (2001), who reported that perceived stigma significantly increases the risk of reoffending by limiting legitimate avenues for social and economic participation.

Bereavement also showed a positive and significant relationship with recidivism ($r = .516$, $p < .01$). Participants who had experienced the loss of significant others were more prone to reoffending. The emotional strain associated with grief may heighten psychological distress, impair decision-making, and reduce coping capacity, making inmates vulnerable to maladaptive behaviours. In the correctional context, inadequate support systems for coping with bereavement may exacerbate these effects. This outcome is corroborated by studies indicating that bereavement and unresolved grief are linked to increased criminal behaviour due to emotional dysregulation and social isolation (Crewe et al., 2017; Omopo, 2025).

Depression was positively and significantly correlated with recidivism ($r = .587$, $p < .01$). Inmates experiencing depressive symptoms were more likely to engage in reoffending. This may be explained by the fact that depression often impairs judgment, reduces motivation for rehabilitation, and increases susceptibility to negative coping strategies, including aggression and substance use. Depressed inmates may also struggle with reintegration challenges, further perpetuating a cycle of offending. Similar associations have been reported in prior research, highlighting depression as a major psychological predictor of recidivism in correctional populations (Fazel & Seewald, 2012; Omopo, 2024).

Empowerment exhibited a significant negative relationship with recidivism ($r = -.410$, $p < .01$), suggesting that inmates who perceived higher levels of personal empowerment were less likely to reoffend. Empowerment may enhance self-efficacy, decision-making capacity, and resilience, enabling individuals to resist criminogenic influences and pursue lawful alternatives post-release. The finding indicates that interventions fostering empowerment could reduce reoffending rates by providing inmates with a sense of control and purpose. This is consistent with Maruna (2001), who reported that personal agency and empowerment significantly mitigate the likelihood of recidivism among former offenders.

Research Question 2: What is the joint contribution of the exogenous variables in explaining recidivism among inmates?

Table 3: Summary of Multiple Regression Analysis for Joint Contribution of Exogenous Variables

Model	R	R ²	Adjusted R ²	F	p
1	.731	.534	.528	89.42	.000

Table 3 presents the results of the multiple regression analysis examining the joint contribution of the exogenous variables to recidivism. The model was statistically significant, $F(6, 393) = 89.42, p < .001$, indicating that the set of predictors collectively explained 53.4% of the variance in recidivism ($R^2 = .534$, Adjusted $R^2 = .528$). This suggests that social pressure, stigmatisation, bereavement, depression, and empowerment jointly have a substantial impact on the likelihood of reoffending among inmates.

The multiple regression analysis (Table 3) revealed that the exogenous variables - social pressure, stigmatisation, bereavement, depression, and empowerment jointly accounted for 53.4% of the variance in recidivism ($R^2 = .534$, Adjusted $R^2 = .528$), and the model was statistically significant, $F(6, 393) = 89.42, p < .001$. This indicates that these factors, when considered together, have a substantial predictive effect on inmates' likelihood of reoffending. The high joint contribution suggests that recidivism is not determined by a single factor but by the combined influence of multiple psychosocial and structural elements operating simultaneously within the inmates' environment.

One plausible rationale for this outcome is that social pressure, such as peer influence or societal expectations, often interacts with other emotional and cognitive stressors, amplifying the risk of reoffending. Inmates who are constantly exposed to negative peer norms may experience heightened psychological strain, which, when coupled with feelings of stigmatisation or social exclusion, can push them toward repeated offending. The interaction between social pressure and stigmatisation creates a reinforcing cycle where external pressures and perceived societal rejection jointly undermine efforts at rehabilitation. This explanation aligns with studies showing that combined criminogenic influences increase susceptibility to recidivism (Omopo, 2025; Quadri et al., 2025).

Bereavement and depression also contribute to the joint effect by compounding emotional vulnerability. Loss of significant others may exacerbate depressive symptoms, leading to diminished coping capacity, poor decision-making, and a greater likelihood of engaging in maladaptive behaviours post-release. The cumulative impact of these stressors demonstrates why the joint contribution of the variables is greater than any single factor alone. In other words, bereavement and depression interact with social pressures and stigmatisation, forming a network

of interrelated psychosocial vulnerabilities that elevate the risk of reoffending (Crewe et al., 2017; Fazel & Seewald, 2012).

Empowerment, though negatively correlated with recidivism, also plays a key role in the joint model by mitigating the adverse effects of the other variables. Inmates with higher levels of empowerment possess greater self-efficacy, resilience, and problem-solving capacity, which can buffer the impact of social pressure, stigmatisation, bereavement, and depression. The combination of these variables illustrates a complex interplay where protective and risk factors operate together, shaping inmates' reoffending behaviour. These findings reinforce the importance of multidimensional intervention strategies that address social, emotional, and personal domains simultaneously to reduce recidivism (Maruna, 2001; Omopo, 2024).

Research Question 3: What are the relative contributions of each exogenous variable to recidivism among inmates?

Table 4: Relative Contributions of Exogenous Variables to Recidivism

Predictor Variable	B	Std. Error	Beta	t	p
Social Pressure	0.452	0.112	0.162	4.04	.000
Stigmatisation	0.873	0.094	0.423	9.28	.000
Bereavement	0.601	0.105	0.231	5.72	.000
Depression	0.689	0.127	0.258	5.43	.000
Empowerment	-0.523	0.119	-0.198	-4.39	.000

Table 4 shows the relative contributions of each exogenous variable to recidivism based on standardized beta coefficients. Stigmatisation made the strongest positive contribution ($\beta = 0.423$), followed by depression ($\beta = 0.258$), bereavement ($\beta = 0.231$), and social pressure ($\beta = 0.162$). Empowerment had a significant negative contribution ($\beta = -0.198$), indicating its protective effect against recidivism. These results suggest that while all variables significantly influence recidivism, stigmatisation is the most influential predictor, and empowerment serves as a mitigating factor.

Stigmatisation emerged as the strongest positive predictor of recidivism ($\beta = 0.423$), indicating that inmates who perceived higher levels of social stigma were more likely to reoffend. The prominence of stigmatisation may be due to the societal exclusion, limited employment opportunities, and social rejection faced by formerly incarcerated individuals. Feeling ostracised

can create frustration, hopelessness, and a sense of alienation, pushing inmates back toward criminal behaviour. This finding corroborates previous research demonstrating that perceived stigma is a significant driver of recidivism, as it reinforces social marginalisation and reduces access to legitimate reintegration avenues (Pager, 2003; Maruna, 2001).

Depression contributed positively to recidivism ($\beta = 0.258$), making it the second most influential predictor. Inmates experiencing depressive symptoms may struggle with low motivation, poor decision-making, and maladaptive coping strategies, all of which increase the likelihood of reoffending. Depression can also exacerbate feelings of hopelessness and reduce engagement in rehabilitation programs, undermining attempts at reintegration. This aligns with findings from Fazel and Seewald (2012) and Omopo (2024), which emphasise that depression significantly heightens the risk of repeated offending in correctional populations.

Bereavement had a notable positive contribution to recidivism ($\beta = 0.231$), suggesting that inmates who had lost significant others were more vulnerable to reoffending. The loss of close relationships may heighten emotional stress, impair coping capacity, and reduce social support, making individuals more susceptible to maladaptive behaviours. The relative position of bereavement in the model indicates that emotional vulnerabilities interact with other criminogenic factors to shape reoffending patterns. This finding is consistent with research showing that unresolved grief and loss are associated with increased criminality among vulnerable populations (Crewe et al., 2017).

Social pressure contributed positively but to a lesser extent ($\beta = 0.162$). Although its impact was smaller compared to stigmatisation, depression, and bereavement, social pressure remains a significant driver of recidivism. Inmates exposed to negative peer influence or societal expectations may feel compelled to conform to deviant norms, reinforcing criminal tendencies. The relatively smaller contribution may indicate that social pressure's effect is partly mediated through emotional and psychological factors like depression and stigmatisation, which amplify vulnerability to reoffending (Quadri et al., 2025).

Empowerment had a significant negative contribution to recidivism ($\beta = -0.198$), reflecting its protective role. Inmates with higher empowerment levels possess greater self-efficacy, resilience,

and problem-solving capacity, enabling them to resist criminogenic pressures and pursue lawful alternatives. This inverse relationship underscores the importance of interventions that enhance inmates' sense of control and agency to mitigate the risk of reoffending. These results support Maruna (2001) and Omopo (2024), who emphasised empowerment as a critical factor in reducing recidivism by fostering personal and social resilience.

Conclusion

This study examined the relationships, joint contributions, and relative contributions of social pressure, stigmatisation, bereavement, depression, and empowerment in predicting recidivism among inmates in correctional centres in Southwestern Nigeria. The findings revealed that all exogenous variables significantly influenced recidivism, with stigmatisation emerging as the strongest positive predictor, followed by depression, bereavement, and social pressure, while empowerment served as a significant protective factor. The joint contribution of these variables accounted for over half of the variance in recidivism, highlighting the multifactorial nature of reoffending behaviour. These results suggest that recidivism is not driven by a single factor but rather by the interplay of psychosocial stressors, emotional vulnerabilities, and personal resources. Consequently, interventions targeting multiple domains simultaneously are essential for effectively reducing reoffending among inmates.

Recommendations

1. **Stigma Reduction Programs:** Correctional centres and policymakers should implement initiatives aimed at reducing social stigma against inmates, including community sensitisation, vocational reintegration programs, and public education campaigns to promote acceptance of rehabilitated offenders.
2. **Mental Health Interventions:** Inmates experiencing depression, bereavement, or emotional distress should have access to structured psychological support, including counselling, therapy, and peer-support groups, to enhance coping capacity and reduce the risk of reoffending.

3. **Peer Influence Management:** Programs addressing social pressure, such as mentorship, group-based rehabilitation, and prosocial peer networks, should be strengthened to mitigate the negative impact of peer conformity on recidivism.
4. **Empowerment Initiatives:** Correctional centres should focus on enhancing inmates' empowerment through skill acquisition, education, vocational training, and decision-making opportunities, fostering self-efficacy and resilience that reduce susceptibility to reoffending.
5. **Integrated Rehabilitation Approaches:** Policymakers and correctional administrators should design multidimensional intervention strategies that simultaneously address emotional, social, and personal factors, ensuring a holistic approach to reducing recidivism.
6. **Future Research:** Further studies should explore additional psychosocial, environmental, and institutional factors that may influence recidivism, including longitudinal research to track post-release outcomes and the effectiveness of intervention programs.

References

- Adebayo-Oke, B. O., Omopo, O. E., & Oyetunji, Y. (2021). Investigation of the correlation between smoking behaviour, alcoholism, psychosis, educational status and aggression of local security operatives in Ibadan Metropolis. *International Journal of Academic and Applied Research (IJAAR)*, 5(10), 18-27.
- Akinyemi, O. Y., Ajani-Adeigbe, A. T., Abiodun-Oyebanji, O. J., & Akinwunmi, F. S. (2018). The influence of socio-economic status on academic achievement in Nigerian secondary school students. *African Journal of Educational Management*, 19, 135-152.
- Alemayehu, M. (2020). Challenges of prison rehabilitation programs in Africa: Evidence from Ethiopia. *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 59(4), 215-230.
- Aremu, A., & Akinyemi, O. Y. (2019). Peer influence and academic motivation: A case study of secondary school students in Ibadan, Nigeria. *Journal of Educational Psychology and Practice*, 5(1), 45-58.
- Beck, A. T., Steer, R. A., Kovacs, M., & Garrison, B. (1989). Hopelessness and eventual suicide: A 10-year prospective study of patients hospitalized with suicidal ideation. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 142(5), 559-563.

- Blasco-Fontecilla, H., Baca-García, E., Courtet, P., & Oquendo, M. A. (2015). Emptiness and suicidal behavior: An exploratory review. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 45(5), 612-622.
- Crewe, B., Warr, J., Bennett, P., & Smith, A. (2017). The emotional geography of prison life. *Theoretical Criminology*, 21(4), 497-515.
- Durose, M. R., Cooper, A. D., & Snyder, H. N. (2014). *Recidivism of prisoners released in 30 states in 2005: Patterns from 2005 to 2010*. Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics.
- Fazel, S., & Seewald, K. (2012). Severe mental illness in 33,588 prisoners worldwide: Systematic review and meta-regression analysis. *British Journal of Psychiatry*, 200(5), 364-373.
- Fazel, S., & Wolf, A. (2015). A systematic review of criminal recidivism rates worldwide: Current difficulties and recommendations for best practice. *PLoS ONE*, 10(6), e0130390.
- Gendreau, P., Little, T., & Goggin, C. (1996). A meta-analysis of the predictors of adult offender recidivism: What works! *Criminology*, 34(4), 575-607.
- Ibrahim, R. O., Awoyemi, O. A., & Omopo, O. E. (2024). Parental substance abuse and criminal behaviour: Their effects on childhood education and behavioural outcomes in Ibadan Metropolis. *International Journal of Academic Pedagogical Research*, 8(8), 104-114.
- Jenkins, R. (2017). Prison life and hopelessness: Psychological challenges of incarceration. *Journal of Forensic Psychology*, 2(3), 1-8.
- Maruna, S. (2001). *Making good: How ex-convicts reform and rebuild their lives*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Odekunle, F. (2021). Crime and recidivism in Nigeria: Trends, causes, and control. *African Journal of Criminology and Justice Studies*, 14(1), 43-62.
- Omopo, O. E. (2023). Psychological precipitators of suicidal ideation amongst University of Ibadan students. *International Journal of Academic and Applied Research*, 7(11), 56-62.
- Omopo, O. E. (2025). Can emotion regulation, peer pressure, and social support shape the impact of childhood trauma on adolescent mental health? A structural equation modelling approach in Oyo State, Nigeria. *International Journal of Innovative Psychology & Social Development*, 13(3), 56–65. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.16222335>
- Omopo, O. E. 2024. Exploring the qualitative dimensions of cognitive reframing therapy in reducing tobacco smoking dependency among inmates: Insights from Agodi Correctional Centre, Ibadan. *Journal of Special Education*, 22(1), 37–47.

- Pager, D. (2003). The mark of a criminal record. *American Journal of Sociology*, 108(5), 937-975.
- Quadri, G. O., Omopo, O. E., & Ukpere, W. I. (2025). Childhood trauma, peer pressure, parenting styles and gender on adolescent substance abuse in Ibadan: A structural equation modelling approach. *EUREKA: Social and Humanities*, 3, 29–45. <http://doi.org/10.21303/2504-5571.2025.003768>
- Ugwuoke, C. U. (2010). *Criminology: Explaining crime in the Nigerian context*. Nsukka: Great AP Express.
- Walters, G. D. (2018). The criminal thinking profile: A comprehensive review of evidence, measurement, and correlates. *Aggression and Violent Behavior*, 39, 1-11.
- Warr, M. (2002). *Companions in crime: The social aspects of criminal conduct*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.