

T.C.
ANTALYA BILIM UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE OF POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION

GLOBAL POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
MASTER'S THESIS

NIGERIAN IMMIGRATION TO CANADA: THE CASE OF CALGARY

Walter Stephen Ikechukwu OCHI

OCTOBER 2023

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This thesis was accepted by the Jury (with unanimous vote / majority vote) on the date/.../2023 in TURKEY in GLOBAL POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS of POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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MSc Thesis of this study named “NIGERIAN IMMIGRATION TO CANADA: THE CASE OF CALGARY” which I presented, I declare that scientific moral principles were followed in the preparation of this study, in case of benefiting from the works of others, reference is made in accordance with scientific norms, no falsification has been made in the data used, and that any part of this study is not presented as another academic study.

... / ... / 2023

[signature]

Walter Stephen Ikechukwu OCHI

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ABSTRACT

NIGERIAN IMMIGRATION TO CANADA: THE CASE OF CALGARY

Walter Stephen Ikechukwu OCHI

MSc Thesis in Global Politics and International Relations

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Gözde TURAN

October 2023; 83 pages

Several governments so far have exploited immigration to fill workforce shortages in numerous professions in their countries. Migration, particularly from underdeveloped to developed countries, has been heavily restricted in order to admit applicants with the required expertise to fulfil the needs in the labor market. This "economic pool" of "chosen" migrants accounts for about seventy percent of immigration in the Canadian case. The causes and consequences of migration, economic and rational explanations notwithstanding, cannot be fully captured without taking into consideration of the socioeconomic as well as psychological and personal factors as to why immigrants want to move. This thesis investigates the socioeconomic circumstances of the recent young migrant group from Nigeria to Calgary, Canada. Through looking into the immigrants' motives for migration, experiences both before and after the migration, and expectations as well as problems in Calgary, the thesis displays that migration is a multifaceted process which opens up new opportunities yet includes also insecurities for the migrants. In order to improve the insight on migrant groups' experiences, the thesis will conduct a qualitative methodology with interviews and interrogate whether the future prospects of the migrants continue to be promising despite certain problems.

KEYWORDS: Calgary, Canada, Immigration, Nigeria, Young migrants.

COMMITTEE: Assoc. Prof. Gözde TURAN

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ÖZET

NİJERYA'DAN KANADAYA GÖÇ: CALGARY ÖRNEĞİ

Walter Stephen Ikechukwu OCHI

Yüksek Lisans Tezi, Küresel Siyaset ve Uluslararası İlişkiler Anabilim Dalı

Danışman: Doç. Dr. Gözde TURAN

October 2023; 83 sayfa

İşgücü piyasasındaki bazı meslek kollarındaki işgücü açığını kapatmak adına çeşitli ülkelerdeki yönetimler göçten faydalanmışlardır. Göçmenlerin, özellikle az gelişmiş ülkelere göçü, işgücü ihtiyaçlarını karşılamak için gerekli uzmanlığa sahip başvuru sahiplerini kabul etmek için büyük ölçüde kısıtlanmıştır. "Seçilmiş" göçmenlerden oluşan bu "ekonomik havuz", Kanada'ya göçün yaklaşık yüzde yetmişini oluşturmaktadır. Her ne kadar ekonomik ve rasyonel açıklamalar göç olgusunun nedenleri ve sonuçları üzerinde çalışsalar da, bu yaklaşımlar göçmenlerin ülke değiştirme kararlarının altında yatan sosyoekonomik, psikolojik ve bireysel faktörleri yeterince ele almamaktadır. Bu tez, Kanada'nın Calgary kentine göç eden genç Nijeryalı göçmen grubunun sosyoekonomik koşullarını araştırarak, göçmenlerin motivasyonlarını, göçün öncesi ve sonrasındaki deneyimlerini, geleceğe dair beklentilerini ve güvenlik kaygılarını ortaya koymayı hedeflemektedir. Göçün sadece yeni fırsatlar değil, aynı zamanda güvenlik sorunlarını da içeren çok katmanlı bir olgu olduğundan hareketle, göçmen grupların deneyimlerinin daha iyi anlaşılması için niteliksel bir metodoloji seçilmiş ve mülakat yapılan göçmen grup üyelerinin tüm sorunlara karşın iyimser bir gelecek beklentilerinin olup olmadığı sorgulanmıştır.

ANAHTAR KELİMELELER: Calgary, Genç göçmen grubu, Göç, Kanada, Nijerya.

JÜRİ: Doç. Dr. Gözde TURAN

Prof. Dr. Şenol KANTARCI

Dr. Öğr. Üyesi Burak Toygar HALİSTOPRAK

ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|--------|---|
| CBC | : Canada Broadcasting Corporation |
| CEC | : Canada Experience Class |
| CECIA | : Canada Experience Class Immigration Act |
| CPNP | : Canada Provincial Nominee Program |
| CRaM | : Centre for Research and Analysis of Migration |
| ECOWAS | : Economic Communities of West African States |
| GDP | : Gross Domestic Products |
| HDI | : Human Development Index |
| IOM | : International Organisation for Migration |
| IQ | : Intelligent Quotient |
| IRCC | : Immigration Refugees and Citizenship Canada |
| IT | : Information Technology |
| NGO | : Non Governmental Organisation |
| NELM | : New Economic of Labour Migration |
| NIS | : Nigeria Immigration Service |
| OECD | : The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development |
| PNP | : Provincial Nominee Program |
| PRC | : Permanent Resident Card (Canada) |
| UN | : United Nations |
| WHO | : World Health Organisation |

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PREFACE

Without the help of certain people and institutions, I never would have been able to pursue and complete my educational objectives. I want to express my gratitude to the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Antalya Bilim University for accepting my application and providing me with the many other forms of assistance that made it possible for me to begin this program.

First and foremost, I'd want to express my gratitude to Assoc. Professor Gozde Turan, who served as my thesis supervisor and enthusiastically approved of my topic and guided me all through the research. My research efforts, concentration, and breadth were much improved as a result of her reading early versions of the work and providing me with helpful instructions and recommendations as I worked on them under her supervision. Therefore, I owe her a great deal of gratitude for teaching me the fundamentals of academic inquiry. I benefited from her careful scrutiny of my work. She stimulated my curiosity and hunger for literature, both in print and in handwritten form. Her insightful critique helped me hone the piece into a more presentable shape.

Prof. Mesut Uyar's understanding of international events and his ability to connect with students of varied levels of education and backgrounds were invaluable to me as a student, and I am very grateful to him for that. I'd want to thank everyone who helped me along the way, from my family to my friends and my colleagues. The promptness and perseverance of Assistant Professor Dicle Korkmaz were crucial to the accomplishment of this project. She was a great source of encouragement as she reminded me over and over again how hard I needed to work in order to produce quality research. Moreover, I often sought her out during class time to talk about contentious subjects and themes. My academic rock, Assistant Professor Didem Cakmakli; I owe her a great deal of gratitude for teaching me the fundamentals of academic inquiry during my studies; she was a rock for me throughout the programme. I'd like to publicly acknowledge and thank Asst. Prof. Burak Toygar Halistoprak for his helpful comments during my topic selection. All the credit for my academic success goes to Professor Edward Erickson, Professor Tarik Oguzlu, Assistant Professor Isil Cerem Cenk Ozek, and Assistant Professor Christos Kourtelis. I will always be grateful to them.

I also want to thank the management and staff of The Land of Legends Kingdom Hotel for all the support. I owe a great debt of gratitude to Mr. Cetin Pehlivan, the General Manager, and Mr. Ozgur, the former Food and Beverage Manager, for providing me with a job and the means to earn money and cope financially. I owe a great debt of gratitude to Ezgi Terzi Baycan, the Director of Human Resources, and Mr. Vadim Cona, and the rest of other staffs, for providing me with a favourable work shift during my course work.

My parents' unwavering faith in God and their willingness to submit completely to His will have been a source of strength for me as I've navigated the difficulties of starting over in a new country. For nothing is impossible with God, and his plans can never be thwarted. In the end, there were many people who contributed to this study but could not be named individually; I am grateful to each and every one of them.

1. INTRODUCTION

The global landscape has witnessed a significant surge in migration flows, with individuals seeking better economic opportunities, improved quality of life, and escape from various challenges in their home countries. Among the countries experiencing substantial migration trends, Canada has emerged as a prominent destination, attracting a diverse array of migrants from around the world. This research delves into the multifaceted aspects of the socioeconomic experience of young Nigerian migrants in Canada. By examining the factors driving migration, the challenges encountered in the process, and the subsequent integration into the Canadian society, this research aims to provide valuable insights into the complex dynamics shaping the lives of young Nigerian migrants to Canada.

1.1. Reasons for Migration

The choice to move is often influenced by a convergence of variables, including economic, educational, and social concerns. The key driving force for young Nigerians is the quest of high-quality education and improved job opportunities. Canada's esteemed education system, together with its flourishing employment market, attracts many young Nigerians who are seeking opportunities for personal and professional growth. The prospect of a more secure and affluent existence is a powerful impetus for these folks to cross the Atlantic Ocean in pursuit of better opportunities.

1.1.1. Professional Ambitions and Educational Pursuit

A notable percentage of young Nigerian migrants in Canada start their journey with dreams for study. The nation's higher education institutions, renowned for their rigorous academic criteria and culturally varied atmosphere, draw a wide range of foreign students, including those from Nigeria. Obtaining higher degrees and professional certifications provides young migrants with a wide range of work choices, which helps improve their socioeconomic status.

1.1.2. Difficulties and Flexibility in Canadian Society

Migration is often accompanied by difficulties, and young Nigerians in Canada face a distinct set of obstacles as they adjust to a new cultural environment. The early problems arise from cultural disparities, linguistic obstacles, and the complexities of maneuvering through a foreign administrative framework. Nevertheless, the encounters of several individuals are marked by their capacity to recover quickly from difficulties and adjust to new circumstances, as they progressively assimilate into Canadian culture, establishing relationships within their immediate surroundings and making valuable contributions to the multiculturalism that characterizes the country.

1.1.3. Impact on the Canadian Economy

As young Nigerians establish themselves in Canada, their impact goes beyond their personal lives and extends to the wider economic environment. A multitude of individuals get jobs in many areas, spanning from technology to healthcare, therefore contributing their expertise and abilities to the Canadian labor market. This integration

not only satisfies the desires of the migrants but also strengthens Canada's economic expansion and ingenuity.

1.1.4. Effects of Transnational Influence on Nigeria

Although the migration of young Nigerians to Canada leads to personal achievements, it also prompts concerns over its wider implications on the home nation. Nigeria is concerned about the problem of brain drain, which refers to the migration of highly trained persons from their native nation in search of better chances overseas. Nigeria's endeavor to establish a strong and self-sufficient economy is hindered by the departure of highly trained individuals, especially in sectors like medical, engineering, and technology.

1.1.5. Migration and Cultural Resilience: Exploring the Igbo, Hausa and Yoruba Experiences in Nigeria

Migrants from Nigeria include people of many different cultural backgrounds and ethnicities. These people who have left Nigeria often maintain a cultural identity that is strongly rooted in Nigerian traditions. Often times, they'll leave their home country of Nigeria in quest of better ways to meet their social, political, economic, and personal development goals. They feel hopeless about achieving these goals in their current homes because of economic and political injustice, a dearth of opportunities, a lack of safety, and an unstable climate commonly of an underdeveloped nation like Nigeria. Nigeria has a significant population of over 200 million who proved to be tough and resourceful nomads, both inside and outside the country's boundaries. The Igbo are a good illustration of this portrayal since more than half of them now reside outside of the traditional Igboland region. It is believed that there are 45 million people of Igbo ethnicity in Nigeria, and around 15 million of them have left the country to seek better opportunities elsewhere. They have been struck by "brain drain" The issue that arises is why the Igbo value migration in the first place? It is quite incomprehensible why such high level of domestic displacement has not caused deep unrest amongst the population so far. Since the process of adjusting to a new environment is central to the job of social workers, it's no surprise that it's been the subject of much research (Wood 1988). Nevertheless, the unique strategies used by the Igbo, Yoruba, and the Hausa that speed up adaptation to relocation and help them achieve their objectives, provide a further window into the reasons why certain citizens of a given state place a higher premium on migration than others. According to published works (Baker 1993; Salvendy 1983; Iroegbu 2007; Stalker 2001), there is a wide range of motivations for individuals to decide to reside in a new country. A significant cultural divide among the home and the receiving countries, a shift in economic fortunes, a faltering economy in the host nation, and inflated expectations are just a few of the factors that might complicate the adjustment process.

The presence of localised, functioning, and accepting communities comprised of people from the migrant's cultural background, as well as a decent command of the language of the host community, are all variables that greatly improve the likelihood of a successful settlement. For an immigrant, few things are more disheartening than arriving in a new country and realising that they lack the means necessary to make the most of the chances that are available. When this happens, it's impossible to start

making new friends and finding new opportunities right away. The idea of sticking to any employment, no matter how menial or unsuitable, is always there in the immigrant's thoughts. If you find yourself far from your immediate family and friends, reaching out to your ethnic and cultural group may result in warm embraces and positive reinforcement, or it may lead to a dead end with no one to talk to or no one to connect with at all. This is especially true in migration and settlement periods in which children and the elderly are engaged.

Furthermore, Intra-African migration is also happening, and in recent times, Nigeria has seen a large inflow of people from other Economic Communities of West African States (ECOWAS) member countries (Akanle, 2013; Berriane, Aderghal, & Amzil, 2012; Adepoju, 2000; 2008a). New data, nonetheless, shows that more Nigerians leave for other nations than enter the country legally (Afolayan, 2009). It is noteworthy that the most likely types of Nigerians to emigrate are college-educated professionals and economically disadvantaged young adults who lack the funds to pay for the documentation they need to leave the country (Brachet, 2012; Ndao, 2012; Nwalutu, 2014; Sassen, 2003). A streamlined approach was taken by the government and other interested parties to handle migratory methods and direct their positive effects in the direction of advancement. Regulating immigration however, will remain just as difficult as restricting immigration due to the high incidence of illegal movement in the West African sub-region and deficiencies in paperwork. The country's expanding population, its unstable economic climate, and its porous borders have all been blamed for the unprecedented migratory activity. These causes may all fall under the "push factors" concept. In terms of total population, Nigeria ranks around sixth on the global scale, with over 200 million people, one of the world's youngest populations, with over 75% of residents being younger than 30 (Global Agenda, 2014).

The most obvious conclusion to draw from this demographic study is that a greater number of those who leave the country to live elsewhere, either internationally or in another area are mainly young people, in search of opportunities. It's also worth noting that official fiscal remittances into Nigeria have increased dramatically because of the high number of her people abroad (Falola & Folabi, 2007; Afolayan, 2009; Akanle, 2013). Remittance by Nigerians working abroad ascended dramatically from \$2 billion in 2004 to \$20 billion in 2021, Most Nigerians who go across the ocean do so to Europe, the United States, Asia, or Oceania. This thesis never intend to address the broader ramifications of the massive youth migration out of Nigeria, but to explain the perception and experiences of these migrants from their point of departure in Nigeria all the way to their final destination. The destination Canada is still very important to the development of youth-friendly border policies and practises that encourage the growing movement of young people throughout the world.

1.1.6. Thoughts on Youth Migration: Motivations for Young People to Travel Abroad as Independent Migrants

According to Esipova, Ray, and Srinivasan (2010), findings of a global survey on youth migration, conducted by Gallup across various regions, have been documented that the factors that contribute to the inclination of individuals to migrate from their country are subject to variation based on the country, region, and level of human development. However, a shared underlying factor is the presence of opportunities, such

as the prospect of reuniting with family members who have already migrated, establishing a new business, enjoying the freedom to express one's opinions without fear, or residing in a place where children are treated with dignity (Esipova, Ray, and Srinivasan 2010; 19).

As was previously emphasised, most studies and discussions paid less attention to other reasons for migration other than economic reasons, while young people and children are only taken into account when they are following in the footsteps of family members who are already economically established in another country. In the twenty-first century, young people are the most mobile migrant demographic, yet this reality is ignored by the theoretical approach being discussed. The most striking result of the poll is the positive link between the presence of international social networks and people's willingness to move. In other words, a young person may be inspired to become an international migrant after hearing an accounts of people they know who have lived abroad. As a result, one's social network serves as a form of motivation booster for other potential young immigrants to investigate (Akanle, 2013). Even though Esipova, Ray, Srinivasan's (2010) findings were based on discussions of "push and pull" experiences, other scholars like Sassen (1988), Valiani (2012), and Appadurai, (1996) have held opinions that make the findings very limited when it comes to comprehending the complexities of migration in the twenty-first century. In particular, the work of Esipova, Ray and Srinivasan (2010) is important to our investigation because of its focus on the migration of young adults. For example, Esipova, Ray and Srinivasan (2010) found that younger people are the only ones who move because they want to explore more than just look for work opportunities abroad. This is different from what previous studies found, which said that. Underemployed older people (those between the ages of 30 and 65) in the western world are more likely to report wanting to move than their counterparts of the same age who are employed or not in the labour force. In spite of the availability of employment opportunities at home, millions of young people throughout the globe would leave their nations permanently if given the chance. They reveal that people under the age of 30 who have no job, or underemployed, or even employed, are desirous of travelling throughout the world, with the exception of the Middle East and North Africa.

The research by Esipova, Ray and Srinivasan (2010) shows that people move to where they have more job opportunities, make more money, and have a better quality of life. This is consistent with what other similar studies have found. Some previous research has suggested that, the conditions in these economies fuel a hunger for adventure and inspire many to travel abroad looking for greener pasture. While this may be true in certain cases involving adult travelers, this isn't always the case for young adults travelling alone. It is, therefore, crucial to look at the reception of these young adult migrants in the host country with restricted entry due to physical boundaries.

1.1.7. Controlling International Migration in a Borderless World

Human migration has always been a natural process, influenced by elements like economic, social, and political circumstances. International migration has increased recently in a borderless world as people relocate to other countries in search of better job prospects, higher living standards, and sometimes as political refugees. To control the influx of people, uphold national security, and protect migrant rights, migration also presents a number of issues for governments.

In a world without borders, managing international migration is a difficult problem that poses many difficulties for decision-makers. Firstly, because migration patterns are frequently unpredictable, it is challenging for governments to plan for and control population influx. Many variables, such as natural disasters, armed conflicts and shifting economic situations, are to blame for this unpredictability. Secondly, complex social and economic issues that are out of the authority of any one country frequently influence migration. For instance, difficult-to-control migratory patterns may be influenced by political unrest, local economic effects of climate change, and global economic disparity. Third, because governments frequently exploit migration policies to further their political objectives, migration is frequently a target of political manipulation. As a result, policies may be developed that don't necessarily work to manage migratory flows but instead advance political goals.

The problem of human rights presents still another significant obstacle in governing international migration. Governments must make sure that their policies do not infringe on the fundamental human rights of migrants because they are frequently the victims of exploitation, abuse, and discrimination. But, in a global world, it can be challenging for governments to guarantee that migrants are treated fairly and with respect because it is frequently unclear what their legal status is. In addition, a lot of migrants experience racism and xenophobia, which can lead to serious social and political unrest in host nations. Finally, rather than taking into account the rights and needs of migrants, migration policies are frequently motivated by nationalist sentiments and a desire to safeguard the interests of citizens. Controlling international migration in a world without borders, managing international migration calls for a variety of solutions that take the problem's complexity into account. Potential remedies include the following:

- An improved level of coordination in migration policies: Governments must collaborate to create improved levels of coordination in migration policies that take into account the requirements of both sending and receiving countries. This necessitates an acceptance of the fact that complex social and economic forces frequently influence migration which is outside the control of particular countries. A coordinated strategy would comprise the exchange of data, the creation of uniform standards and guidelines, and the implementation of efficient management tools for migration movements. More money should be spent tackling migration's underlying causes. Governments must make investments to address the primary drivers of migration, such as poverty, political unrest, and climate change, in order to minimize the number of migrants. This necessitates a large investment in political reform, environmental conservation, and economic and social development. Such an investment would have to be made on a local, regional, and international scale.
- An advanced legal system that protects migrant rights: Governments must make sure that immigrants' legal rights are upheld and that they are not the targets of exploitation, mistreatment, or prejudice. This necessitates the creation of precise legislative frameworks that regulate how migrants are to be treated, governments must make sure that immigrants have access to legal counsel and assistance and are not subjected to arbitrary detention or deportation.
- Investing in public awareness and education: Governments must fund education and public awareness programs to combat the problem of xenophobia and

racism toward migrants. This includes spreading awareness among the general public of the beneficial contributions that immigrants may make to society as well as encouraging better tolerance and understanding of other cultures.

Overpopulation, unemployment, conflict, and natural disasters are only some of the additional, yet not less significant, environmental and sociopolitical contributors to cross-border migration beyond aforementioned, man-made catastrophes, economic downturns, and political instability. As a result, the demographic composition of immigrant populations shifts from one location to another at different points in history, and so do the places to which they migrate. For instance, some scholar alluded to the fact that in the late 19th century (1870–1914), the majority of immigrants to the New World were citizens of Western European countries (Solimano, 2010; Allen, 2008). Similar to the times after World War II, the most recent economic slump (2007–2009) has prompted individuals to relocate from areas of the world where they experience insecurity. The direction of, or change in the direction of, migration flow is shown by the increased mobility of two groups of migrants. Migrants who leave their home countries due to economic or political turmoil fall into the first group. These migrants often go from one nation in the same sub-region or continent to another. Some may even leave the sub-region entirely looking for greener pastures, provided, of course, that they are able to get the necessary travel permits. Even if the direction of political migration is occasionally from the South to the North, it is noteworthy that young people are seldom seen as political migrants. However, teenage migrants seek asylum or refugee status on arrival, despite the fact that their petitions are generally denied due to the tight border monitoring systems of the foreign nations into which they choose to travel (Pisani, 2012). In contrast, economic migrants include not only people but also corporations. Many large companies are cutting back on investments in the North and instead relocating manufacturing facilities and jobs to developing nations in the South in an effort to lower the unit cost of their goods and services. Because of this change, it's likely that these large manufacturers and service providers will pay less for labour and goods (Appadurai, 1996). Since contemporary youth migration is influenced by motives other than political or economic well-being, it is clear that these two broad categories are not comprehensive. Terrorism concerns in industrialised countries after September 11th and the subsequent economic slump have led to the establishment of rigorous border-surveillance spaces, suggesting that some immigrants are prevented from reaching their desired nations. Even though this study can't look at how the identities of migrants interact with other factors to make them seem like unwelcome bodies, it is clear that immigrants help the economies of the countries where they live (Solimano, 2010; Deaux, 2006).

The literature on the topic of border monitoring and control is vast. Moses (2006) presents a strong case for the free flow of individuals through open international boundaries, regardless of their state of origin or destination. Moses looks at the political, economic, and moral factors that affect immigration policy. Moses looks at the past and the moral implications of this issue. He does this to figure out how important each factor is. In light of his research's supporting argument for open global transnational borders, he effectively counters almost every argument for limiting immigration across national boundaries. Although Moses's argument makes moral sense, there is no

foundation for it in international affairs. Moses's proposal for open international boundaries is controversial and frequently rejected in today's society. Still, it seems that state authorities, particularly those of developed countries, are the main opponents of the notion of open territorial borders to migratory people. It's possible that there are subtler political prejudices against Moses' claim than are apparent here, but the political elements won't be effectively debated outside of the economic context. Despite governments' claims of helplessness in the face of other forms of globalisation, they continue to be surprisingly effective at protecting home economies against foreign labour flows. There is no doubt that a nation-state will face pressure from all sides to protect its sovereignty, economy, and politics. However, it is unclear whether or not all transnational migrants are subject to these border controls, which amount to limits and gate-keeping on labour migration. Instead of the unworkable open-border system Moses advocated, that all countries, regardless of latitude, should have access to a more relaxed and universal entry point. This is due to the fact that both emerging and developed countries greatly benefit from international or regional migration. The United Nations, International Organization for Migration (IOM) as well as other Western-based NGOs have all recently been retooling their operations in order to better promote and regulate international migration as a means of achieving economic and social development (Lonnback, 2014; IOM, 2011).

Moses and Letness (2004) who advocate for looser controls on the cross-border movement of workers, examine the financial implications of such policies. A smaller limitation on cross-border movement is advocated, and the authors offers a more plausible and politically relevant justification for this. They state that: "Our findings indicate that estimates of the benefits from loosening immigration limits throughout the world have risen significantly. We conclude that even a modest easing of limitations on international migration may have a positive impact. In particular, we calculate that an increase of 10% in international migration would result in a savings of around \$774 billion (1998) due to increased efficiency" (Moses and Letness 2004: 1609).

However, questions like, "Are people from one part of the world automatically protected by border guards because they belong to the dominant global system that designed these boundaries to accept certain but not all body types?" must be taken into account (Spivak, 1988; Stasiulis & Bakan, 2005). Is it true that some borders are strictly guarded against "illegal" and unwelcome "aliens", while others are open to social and political permeation and exploitation? What does it mean to be constituted as an "other"? How does a migrant's experience of being called "the other" make her or him rethink what it means to be a global citizen?

1.1.8. Political Injustice and Transnational Border Controls

Political injustice and transnational border control are interrelated concerns with substantial consequences for human rights, equality, and social justice. Both of these concerns are fundamentally formed by power imbalances and inequalities that are engrained in the global political and economic systems. Political injustice is the systematic, institutionalized denial of rights, opportunities, and resources to certain persons or groups on the basis of their identity, views, or social standing. It might take the shape of discrimination, oppression, exclusion, and marginalization, among others. Those in positions of authority who strive to preserve their superiority over others

frequently promote political injustice. Transnational border controls, on the other hand, relate to the legislation, policies, and procedures countries employ to regulate the movement of individuals across national boundaries. Border controls are frequently justified as vital for national security and economic stability, but they may also be used to bolster political injustice and inequality. For instance, stronger border restrictions might make it more difficult for refugees, asylum seekers, and migrants from disadvantaged or persecuted groups to seek shelter and protection in other countries. The fact that transnational border restrictions can worsen existing power inequalities between nations and regions is one of the greatest obstacles the migrants confront. Wealthy countries with thriving economies and stable political systems typically have more stringent border restrictions, making migration from less developed or politically unstable countries more challenging. Hence, the ability of people who are already disadvantaged and marginalized to pursue better chances and a better life is further constrained. Moreover, border barriers can lead to the dehumanization and criminalization of individuals and families who are only seeking a better life. The use of detention camps, border barriers, and other types of border control can engender a feeling of dread and isolation, furthering the marginalization of specific communities. In order to solve these concerns, it is crucial to grasp the profound linkages between political injustice and transnational border controls. Attempts to promote social justice and human rights must incorporate steps to encourage more open, fair, and equitable border control systems, as well as actions to address the underlying causes of political injustice and inequality. As empirical evidence indicates that there is no significant difference in the level of participation in transnational migration between individuals residing in the industrialized Western nations and those residing in the developing Southern nations (Higley, Nieuwenhysen, & Neerup, 2011; Deaux, 2006a). This may involve fostering economic and political stability in less developed nations, addressing the effects of climate change and environmental degradation, and seeking to eliminate all forms of injustice and discrimination.

Bourbeau (2011) apply theories of social and securitization to the problem of how the illusion of government affects and is affected by immigrant treatment and how this in turn affects national intelligence systems. Bourbeau used migration theory to analyse the circumstances that have resulted to the securitization of immigration in both Canada and France, including the roles played by political players, the press, and situational influences. Bourbeau analyses editorial text from major French and Canadian newspapers and public opinion surveys to learn more about the two countries' shared attitudes on border security. In the places he visited, he found that people still had questions and worries about the refugee crisis of the 1990s and thought that people would keep coming.

Border control and security are central to Bourbeau's argument for limiting immigration into Canada, and he bases his case on the proximity of the Canadian and American borders. Terrorists chose the United States as their target on September 11, 2001, but articles included in Bourbeau's research suggest that such limits and monitoring may not have been the norm before the incident. It's reasonable to assume that Canada's border with the United States contributed to a climate of fear and uncertainty that prompted a surge in security measures after 9/11. The tragic events of September 11th could not have had the same impact in France because of the country's

distance from the United States. His work elucidates the ways in which the following factors interplays sociopolitical policy, demographics, and social representation has moulded the patterns and dynamics of modern international mobility and immigrant experiences. According to him, the demographic states of Canada as well as the immigration policies of the federal government work together to shape both the incoming population and the experiences of those who choose to make her their new home. However, Deaux (2006) argues that the other aspect, social image, is even more important in moulding immigrants' experiences and perspectives in their host communities than demographic statistics. The third leg of the triangle is social representation, which is the expression of how a community thinks and feels about migration as a whole.

The nationality of the migrants is relevant to the research problematique because it demonstrates that state authorities wouldn't have any problems balancing immigration and the resistance that such an increase in flow imposes on accessible social and economic amenities and life-sustaining systems as long as a favourable market situation flourished. However, this is not the case when the economy is in a downturn. It's not unreasonable to assume that immigrants end up being blamed for the economic problems in their new home. However, only the lived reality of adult migrants was highlighted by Higley et al (2011). They didn't think about the role that changing economic conditions in the U.S. and Australia, as well as changes in social representation and government immigration policy over time, have played in the recent rise in international youth mobility.

1.1.9. Is There a Precedent for 21st Century Border Control Issues?

The Westphalia Treaty of 1648, which officially ended the Thirty Years War, is sometimes seen as the beginning of the modern era of transnational border movement, surveillance, and governmental control of geographical boundaries. Before, during, and after the two World Wars (1914–1918 and 1939–1945), surveillance and control of transnational movement were also key issues of the international community (Moses, 2006). My previous point is reinforced here: most developed countries and multinational non-governmental organisations are more concerned with migration management than with addressing the underlying causes of the surge in transnational migration. It also highlights the Canadian Permanent Resident Card (PRC) production and issuance processes as a border gate-keeping device, illuminating the ways in which the paperwork and other processes involved in the PRC's introduction create individuals with border authority in the developed North. As a tool, globalisation has divided the world and its people into two camps: those who are industrialised and those who are not; those who are developed and those who are not; those who are civilised and those who are not; and those who are affected by globalisation but who have less political clout. It's worth noting that the North, which sees itself as the world's spokesperson and political epicentre, is the birthplace of both the old and new world orders. There is a needs to ask a question that addresses the precarious condition of migrants from the colonised South at the northern border. According to Sharma (2005) this may be explained as follows: individuals can be transformed into distinct, individual subjects of the state via the use of the logic of binary oppositions. Anderson, Sharma, and Wright, (2009) advocate for no borders as an essential, tangible socio-political endeavour in response to the hegemonic role of states at transnational boundaries. At transnational

border control, the pushback against state authority is slow and mostly hostile to people who are pretending to be someone else. Those from the Southern hemisphere seeking refuge in the industrialised North are presumably at the mercy of border patrol agents. Due to globalisation, there is an uneven distribution of political power between the more and less industrialised, developed, and civilised peoples. According to Sharma (2005)'s justifications "Protection of the homeland" has taken a back seat to the elimination of the "foreign threat" in current discussions of national security. As citizens, we have an obligation to protect our country from foreigners who are always developing new methods to subvert immigration policies and threaten our security. This kind of language is, of course, quite evident in the war on terror that has ensued since September 11th, with its extensive use of ethnic, sexist, and homophobic profiling to identify potential terrorists. However, we should not forget that plans for national security have been in place for quite some time" (Sharma, 2005: 88).

The study of boundaries, as Wright, Anderson, and Sharma (2009) argue, is seen as an ideological endeavour because of its role in producing and maintaining social stratification. The no borders-inspired study they conducted found that certain remedies to injustices produced by state border surveillance apparatuses were essential but inadequate to challenge the state's hegemonic power at national boundaries. Weaknesses exist because the proposed remedies do not credibly challenge the hegemony of the state and its subjective creation of people into citizens and its claim to nationhood. Each of Anderson, Sharma, and Wright has a magnificent and nuanced place in this discussion. The no-borders project, like Moses (2006) undermines the importance of borders to the success of neoliberal economic endeavours while also rejecting the conceptions of citizenship and statehood. This line of thinking is rational and ethically sound, but it lacks credibility due to the reality that nation-states will continue to play a central role in both local and international politics. It is puzzling that sociologists have not yet been alerted to the potentially dangerous trend of youth international mobility, especially given the lack of youth-specific issues that have been addressed.

Furthermore, the current sociopolitical turbulence makes imagining a society without transnational borders unthinkable and unpredictable. However, in contrast to Wright, Anderson, and Sharma's (2009) findings, one may argue for more flexible boundary conditions, particularly in the case of money and products, since they may not violate the basic rights of passing people (Stewart, 2010). Since the Westphalia treaty, an abstract authority termed a "state" has established which nation has the preeminent jurisdiction over a specific geographical land mass. Furthermore, the people who live on a certain piece of land are considered to be part of the territory itself, making allegiance to the state and its citizens a prerequisite for enjoying any of those benefits. Unwanted outsider visitors might be seen as a danger or, at best, an intrigue in this scenario. It's important to emphasise that the dominance and control of global boundaries by the industrialised world means that inhabitants of migrant-sending countries are trapped by the migratory policies of dominating nations, even inside their own country. The result is that emerging governments, such as those in Africa, are made to feel fear and dread through moral persuasion and other diplomatic and economic pressures. The result is that these countries have little choice but to kowtow to the policies of their former colonial rulers, endangering the rights of their citizens to travel freely, in contrast to the situation in industrialised countries.

Migrant women and children, in particular, often become the focus of sympathy while discussing the effects of current migration and border restriction laws. However, ignoring the diverse types of people making up the migratory community renders the excluded bodies invisible and reduces the rationale for amending current laws to better their migration experiences. It is impossible to have a complete understanding of the global migrant topic unless discussions of migration are widened to include different types of migrants and the complex interplay of events that shape their daily lives. This line of thinking stems from the recognition that the language used to describe migrants has a significant impact on how they are seen, treated, and ultimately helped by border officials and citizens alike. There are many young migrants who do not neatly fit into any one category and who are instead located on the periphery or at an intersection of many. Clarifying across categories would result in a more accurate account of migrant subjects' lived experiences (epistemic saliency). This, in turn, would encourage researchers to try for a more nuanced story of each migrant.

1.1.10. Further Views on the History of Migration in Nigeria

Iheanacho and Ughaerumba, (2015) suggest that migration has its origins in the initial appearance of people on our planet. Slavery, colonialism, urbanization, industrialization, and globalisation are all examples of migration patterns. Many people have embarked on moving about (emigrating) from one location to another. Nigeria's history of international migration may be traced back to the pre-colonial period (namely, the era of the slave trade). Migration occurred both forcibly and voluntarily throughout these times. Nigerians moved to different areas of West Africa's neighbouring nations, mainly for commercial reasons. In line with Fayomi (2013), international migration is mostly driven by economic factors, such as the availability of job or trade opportunities, or a high quality of life. International migration, according to Tacoli and Okali, (2001) a product of globalisation since the globe is linked and interdependent. Migration may be defined as a movement across national or international boundaries. Moving to a more developed country, such as Canada, may help nations continue to grow in a sustainable manner. When they migrate internationally, individuals travel across international borders. A migrant is a person who often relocates from one location to another.

Regular and irregular migrants are the two types of migrants that are involved in migration. According to WHO (2007) Finally, a question whose goal was to determine the effects of their decision the number of people moving across borders has been increasing. There are two types of migration: permanent and transitory. In the case of Canada, (CREAM, 2011) confirms that migration can boost creativity, innovation, business, and entrepreneurship. Migration, according to the IFRCRC (2012) is a process of migrating across boundaries. Even before the colonial period, when people were treated as commodities and sent to Europe as slaves as part of the slave trade, migration was common in Nigeria. Many ethnic groups and Africans travelled about throughout the colonial period, disseminating knowledge and teaching their fellow citizens about the philosophy once referred to as nationalism. They also travelled around for trade reasons, sharing information and educating their fellow citizens about it. Nigerian youth have also migrated to Canada and other parts of the world for the purpose of acquiring formal education and other relevant skills that would enhance their economic and social lives. People from all over the world come to developed European nations to work and

raise families, and their varied backgrounds and perspectives on life and culture may enrich a country's culture and way of life (West, 2011). International migration is defined in this research as the migration of Nigerians to Canada. (South-North). People migrate internationally in response to the "pull" and "push" forces.

As a result of the interconnectedness of nation-states and the global economy, international migration is only going to grow in the future. Also, because of the advantages of globalization, people are more likely to participate in international migration. International migration, according to Adetunji (2014) is the movement of people across national borders. The desire for a better life than one's former or current position is one of the reasons why migrants migrate from one country to another. For a nation-state, migration may have positive or negative effects based on how that nation-state deals with the subject matter. Migration has the ability to strengthen or weaken a nation state on many levels, including politics, culture, and socioeconomics. International migration has a varying effect on nation states because of the differences between how it affects the industrialised world and the emerging world (Nwagwugwu et al., 2015). Migration has the potential to stimulate the flow of information, inventions, creativity, and technological advancements across borders. The receiving governments dread the unauthorised and irregular entry of most migrants since this may create instability in the nation-state involved. International migration is advantageous to all parties, including the receiving states. An increase in the number of qualified migrants entering the labour market may lead to an increase in the number of innovative and creative people working in that nation-state. Ethnic minorities who come to the Canada with the appropriate skills and experience have been linked to increased productivity in the economies where they settle. International migration's success can't be described without mentioning Canada, according to literature. Many industrialised European nations have large immigrant populations from a variety of countries, bringing with them different cultures, beliefs, and traditions. These differences may help a nation-state thrive by bringing together different points of view and approaches to a specific problem (West, 2011). The immigration of skilled migrants into a particular nation can also contribute to its economic growth (Martin and Midgley, 2003). Migration and socio-economic development have been the subject of various debates because they are perceived to be economically related. According to International Organization for Migration, IOM (2013), the evidence indicates that international migration is a viable option for the socioeconomic growth of a state as a whole. Effective policies can only be put in place and executed by various subordinates under the direction of quality leadership who are open in their interactions with one another. Migration is impossible without these conditions. International migration, according to (IOM, 2010), may have a positive or negative impact on the economic growth of a state, depending on the performance of the authorities in charge. According to Asefa (2013) immigration from other countries will continue to rise as countries remain directly or indirectly dependent on one another. There will be an increase in the number of people identifying their different destinations because of the appealing "push" elements in their home countries as well as the numerous "pull" reasons. Finally, international migration may be unavoidable due to the growing demand for labour from a variety of countries and states, particularly from the industrialised world.

According to Ardiitis and Laczko (2013) most developed nations participate in

international migration (more specifically, immigration of people) to meet the need for highly educated and talented workers in such countries. In addition, there is evidence to suggest that international migration may help reduce poverty and inequality within nation-states by bringing in highly educated workers who can bring new ideas and generate new wealth within such nations. That nation-state can have excellent and exceptional success if the people have the appropriate knowledge and skills. IOM believes in the transmission of knowledge and experience across nations. Most nations' health, economic, education, and technological sectors have benefited from the contributions of immigrants. Negative outcomes may occur if a state's international migration efforts are poorly managed. It also acknowledges the importance of social development, which backs up the estimate of 281 million migratory workers all over the world (IOM, 2021). Several scholars have pointed out that international movement does not just involve migration from the South to the North but also includes South-South migration, which is more common in regions like West Africa. For instance, Adepoju (2010), in his article "South-South Migration and Human Development: Reflections on African Experiences," argues that South-South migration is a crucial aspect of global migration and development, particularly in Africa. He noted that South-South migration in Africa is characterized by intra-regional and intra-continental movements and that it is driven by factors such as poverty, conflict, and a lack of economic opportunities. Adepoju emphasizes that policymakers and scholars need to pay greater attention to south-south migration and its implications for development in Africa. Also, Skeldon (2012) highlighted the importance of South-South migration in his work "Migration and Development: A Global Perspective," pointing out that South-South migration is often overlooked in discussions of international migration. Skeldon argues that south-south migration is not only more common than north-south migration but also has important development implications for both sending and receiving countries. He suggests that policymakers and researchers need to take a more nuanced approach to international migration that recognizes the diversity of migration patterns and their implications for development. Another scholar, Wucker (2019), argues that south-south migration is transforming the global economy and reshaping traditional patterns of migration. Wucker notes that south-south migration is often driven by factors such as climate change, urbanization, and technological change and that it is transforming the economic and social landscape of many developing countries. She suggests that policymakers and scholars need to pay greater attention to south-south migration and its implications for global development.

International mobility has been linked to both socioeconomic growth and socioeconomic progress, according to research. How well international migration of workers works in a country depends on how far that country has come in its social and economic development.

Globalization has played an essential role in moving people from one country to another, including products and money between countries. On the border, it has led to global economic development. Despite the government's unwillingness to liberalise immigration policy, individuals can nevertheless move to other locations, and the number is growing. IOM (2021) suggests approximately 4% of the world's population, over 280 million people, did not reside in their country of birth. In addition to economic considerations, many individuals desire to move to another country for other objectives.

People migrate for a variety of reasons, including economic benefits such as good jobs; security; threats to life; escaping persecution; or violations of human rights such as torture; and others fleeing armed conflicts or violence. Some individuals think it is unsafe to remain in their country due to violence, assaults, war, starvation, and severe poverty. Nigeria's youngsters have obtained employment, admissions, and scholarships from many areas of the world in recent years. Immigrants from Nigeria have taken over social media, showing their riches, excellent lifestyles, and possibilities in many provinces of Canada and a safe and clean environment. It has further enhanced the choice of Canada as a destination. Young Nigerians moving to Canada has led to a number of structural changes in Nigeria, where young people leave behind the old. It has also created many vacuums in the nation's production. Because a lot of competent people who might assist in growing and developing the country migrate to where they feel there are more opportunities, where they can apply their abilities, their skills, and so forth are available.

Nigeria and Africa are still losing their most delicate hands via migration. According to a 2007–2009 survey, about 38% of Africans in Sub-Sahara desire to migrate, while just 10% of Asians want to reside in another nation permanently (Ray and Esipova, 2009). There are many reasons why people leave their nation to live in another one. Some common causes contribute to the migration trend, with economic reasons being the most common explanation for many people migrating (Martin & Reid, 2007; Mueller, 2013; Abel & Sander, 2014). Migrants are primarily looking for better financial possibilities, decent living standards, and good infrastructure, such as roads, hospitals, schools, etc. International students from underdeveloped countries account for a considerable portion of all immigration. In 2019, Canada welcomed more than 640 000 international students from developing countries (Aleinikoff and Klusmeyer, 2013), which is three times the amount during recent decades. According to immigration statistics, refugees and nationality Canada (IRCC), between January and April 2020, Canada welcomed 67,000 students from 156 countries. Nigeria is an 8-source nation with more than 11,985 students in 2019. Scholars believe that up to 92 percent of these students want to stay in Canada after finishing their studies. According to Wilkinson and Mandal (2008) economic considerations play a major role in the choice of many of these students to stay in Canada after graduation.

There is no doubt that the economic benefits of migration have been studied by a lot of scientists and academics. Still, this thesis will inquire into the reasons and ways young people from Nigeria move to Calgary, Canada, yet with a further concern of understanding the migrants' experiences of their social and economic status. In Canadian immigration policy, Nigerian migrants are substantial and youthful, between 18 and 45 years of age. To investigate and explain perceptions and experiences in socio-economic terms, in-depth interviews will be the method in this thesis to inquire the social and economic status of the migrant in general.

1.2. Aim/Objective of the Research

This thesis aims to investigate the socio-economic perspective of young immigrants from Nigeria in Canada. Canada's immigration policy is developed to guarantee that newcomers are well settled. This study will thus examine how young Nigerian immigrants perceive the economic benefits and the difficulties they face. The

interviewing will be conducted with a selected group of young Nigerian immigrants, which will be online mainly resident in Alberta, Canada. Though the interviewees will have several questions to answer, the main theme of the interviews will be on how the young migrants from Nigeria perceive their socio-economic condition in Canada.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

The research examined the past studies in this area but placed greater emphasis on Nigerian immigrants in Canada. Since most studies focus on the economy, only migrants have a good idea of the social and economic situation.

2.1. Canada as the Choice

Kerr and Kerr (2008) suggest that there are various reasons why people move from country to country; Canada in this case. Often, migrants refer to better income and social welfare; security; proximity to their home countries; and immigration networks, i.e., an affiliate friend or a partner already in the nation with whom they can easily connect. The host country's immigration policy is another crucial factor for choosing a location. (Shackelford 2010) opined that the social and economic aspects are mostly the causes of migration. It also includes those pulled by opportunities and those driven by economic difficulties or the political crisis. There has been a failure to consider how young Nigerian immigrants perceive their socioeconomic situation and how migration affects them.

2.1.1. Migration and Educational Globalization

The "push reason" for migration has been the dire economic circumstances in the world's poor nations, whereas the "pull factor" has been the allure of the affluent nations for those looking to leave. In Nigeria, funding for universities is inadequate. According to Alemu (2014) colonial, imperialist, and neoliberal globalisation are to blame for Africa's failing higher education system. Therefore, there is an imbalanced one-way flow of students from developing to industrialised nations seeking higher education. The fact that the vast majority of Nigerian students who go overseas to pursue higher education never come back is very troubling. Because of this emphasis on intellectual power, "internationalisation is viewed as the new method of imperialism." that causes low-income nations to lose human capital (Alemu, 2014: 76). There is a reaffirmation of dominance by academic institutions in industrialised nations due to their greater access to resources. They have resources for things like research and improved technology, for instance.

According to Altbach (2004) these are the centres of the schooling system. However, universities and colleges that have seen their government funding dry up might offset this by charging overseas students a premium for their education. Many overseas students leave their home countries after finishing their degrees, which has a negative effect on those places. Academics migrating to Canada and other wealthy nations, as well as international students staying in these nations after they graduate, are major factors in the brain drain from developing nations, sometimes known as "sending countries." According to Johnstone and Lee (2014) western countries may benefit from this "post-colonial" situation. In a practise reminiscent of the Age of Empire, Western economies that are in competition deliberately seek out students from Asia, the Middle East, and Africa to pay for a Western education, providing a thriving market for the host nations and a supply of free elite graduates for citizenship (e.g., the 2008 Canadian Experience Class Immigration Act). When one country sends another an amount of capital, it hinders the receiving country's ability to develop its own knowledge

economy, which in turn aids Western nation-building and hegemony (Johnstone & Lee, 2014: 212).

Conventional theories of African migration as being largely motivated by hardship, poor governance, and an absence of progression have been criticised by recent research (Flahaux & De Haas, 2016). Therefore, it is reasonable to claim that the post-secondary education gap between Africa and the West has narrowed in recent years. There has been a reversal or at least a slowing of the brain drain as a result of the many people who have returned as diaspora fellows via initiatives like the Carnegie Diaspora Fellowship Initiative and as visiting lecturers. Because of media technology, researchers from both the developed and developing world are able to work together on research projects. This narrows the divide between northern and southern academic institutions. Specifically, Ochonu (2014) argues that conventional materialist account of African migration to the West to task for putting too much emphasis on economic suffering in Africa as a primary reason for the movement. Although he questions whether or not material hardship is the only cause of African migration, he does not dispute the data linking the two. The socioeconomic incentive for African immigration as an economic refugee, as Ochonu (2014: 196) underlines, satisfies and rectifies the condescending language of African hopelessness, together with the narrative of African departure from the West.

Ochonu further adds that, much like their Asian and European counterparts, Africans move in search of the psychological and social rewards that exploration, discoveries, traveling, and sojourn gives the basic economic interpretation of pushing and pulling and the refreshingly simple theory of psychosocial relief are both included in his assertions (Ochonu, 2014: 196). His theory makes it clear why some academics and the media have blamed African migration for the perceived and actual economic issues confronting Africa. Africa's dismal economic situation as a driving factor behind migration is an undeniable truth that cannot be ignored. Migration's causes are multifaceted and cannot be reduced to monetary considerations alone. He opined that the emotional distress and burden of living in such a society may be just as depressing as material hardship. Many Africans either leave Africa themselves or send their children to the West because of the continent's negative effects on its people and resources.

Most Africans want where their children will be protected from inheriting the widespread poverty and instability of the continent. Building African immigration to the West is, according to Ochonu (2014) the result of Western liberals' paternalistic racial ideas he opined and underlying Western conservative longing for exotic and vulnerable Africa. He further opined that, both conservative and liberal arguments exoticize and caricature these migrants. He responded to the conservative viewpoints by stating that the Western conservative humanistic fixation with the archetype of the refugee immigrant gets neither compassion nor attention from Nigerians who move to the Canada to study, work, and enhance themselves as a choice way to improve themselves or explore. African migration to the West is often attributed to economic hardship, Ochonu (2014) is not alone in criticising this simplistic explanation. As an additional point of view De Haas (2008) claims that poverty in Africa, as opposed to progress, encourages people to leave the continent.

2.1.2. Higher Education in a Neoliberal Age Creates Immigrants

When it comes to immigration (who and how individuals get in) in contemporary cultures, the state has always had monopoly authority. There is, however, no room for debate about the extraordinary importance of non-state entities, such as schools and recruiting agencies, in the selection of new immigrants (Brunner, 2017). In a neoliberal society, such a change is not unprecedented. Canada, like many other post-industrial countries, actively recruits high-earning international students at its public universities and colleges in order to prepare them for success in the local job market and ultimately citizenship. (Polanyi, 1944) argues that, contrary to the claims of certain academics, the state is not neutral but rather serves to further the interests of capitalist. Even though *laissez faire* is the central premise of the capitalist economy, he opines that an unrestrained market is not conceivable without the help of the state. That the state still has the authority to legislate and control its citizens' behaviour is shown here. According to Kwak (2013: 1860) governments and public organisations have surfaced as active promoters of the neoliberal objectives, and the concept of more market and less state ascribed to neoliberalism is at odds with Canada's current immigration policy.

Neoliberal policies are being implemented in public post-secondary institutions throughout Canada. By way of illustration, government funding for schools has been supplemented by increases in fees charged to overseas students (Brunner, 2017). According to Kwak (2013:1865) commercialisation in Canadian education exists, and Canadian public schools are no longer centres of pure teaching but have commercial interests. Marketing and promotion of Canadian education internationally has been taken up by public entities such as Citizenship and Immigration Canada and local school boards (Kwak, 2013). Adeyanju (2017) argues that Canada's immigration regulations and processes aren't flawless, yet they continue to draw people from all over the globe. New immigration policies are heavily influenced by neoliberal globalisation (Flynn and Bauder, 2015; Fleras, 2015; Simmons, 2010). According to Simmons (2010: 85) Canada's present immigration policies bring in designer immigrants, defined as those chosen as if they were custom created to fulfil the precise requirements of a neoliberal society keen on efficiency, cost-recovery, and immigrant self-settlement.

Prominent Canadian immigration experts agree with Simmons' assessment of the country's neoliberal immigration philosophy. A neoliberal immigration policy, as described by Fleras (2015: 125) a proactive international labour programme that benefits a market concept as the best framework for sorting immigrants with jobs, thus picking for new arrivals who are doubtful to pull on assistance programmes or unemployment compensation. In a similar vein, Flynn and Bauder (2015: 541) argues that Canada's immigration process has implemented the pattern of liberalisation and privatisation, particularly in how it progressively endorses employer-driven pathways towards residency and allows employers to select adequately qualified immigrant labour from a number of candidates. Canada isn't alone in the worldwide competition for foreign students; states and public institutions in other nations do the same thing. Brunner (2017) and Kwak (2018) both point out that this is a good thing for the international student population. As Sidhu (2002) demonstrates in his textual and discourse analysis of promotional images by the British Council "Education UK: The Best You Can Be", promotional campaigns are increasingly selling images of places to gain an edge in attracting foreign students and, by extension, increasing export income.

To manage perception (Goffman, 1959) for the United Kingdom, the British Council presents Britain's front stage, attracting international students and academic institutions.

The institutionalisation of marketing methods is what Sidhu (2002: 34) calls this effort to sell Britain. To explain the rapid epistemologization of educational marketing in little over a decade in the UK and Australia, Sidhu (2002: 35) that it is symbolic of a larger movement to persuade state institutions like universities and schools to function according to market rules. In addition to keeping international students who have completed post-secondary education in Canada after the country's public tertiary funding has been depleted via cuts, Canada also benefits from the higher tuition fees paid by foreign students. The government of Canada can avoid the expense of immigration and resettlement if it is able to keep foreign students in the country permanently. Many non-Canadian students use the student visa process to pave the way for eventual citizenship in Canada. Both bodies of research as just discussed have common ground. The first group of works, from the fields of political economy and internationalisation of education, explains how imperialism and colonialism have contributed to widespread disparity throughout the world. The second group of works demonstrates the role that both non-state and state actors play in making it easier for people from different countries to learn from each other.

2.1.3. Strategies for Foreign Students to Obtain Permanent Residency in Canada

To put it simply, Canada welcomes newcomers. The several routes to Canadian permanent residency are evidence of this (Satzewich, 2015). Canada's main pathways to permanent residency are the Federal Skilled Worker Program, Asylum and Refugee Claims, Business Class, and Family Reunification. The Canadian Experience Class (CEC) and the Canadian Provincial Nominee Program are two in-country application programmes available to overseas students interested in obtaining Canadian permanent residence (PNP). With the help of these domestic applications, by using these strategies, Canada can keep its pool of highly skilled and educated workers while only having to pay a small amount to help them move.

2.1.3.1. The Canadian Experience Class (CEC)

Beginning in 2008, the CEC has been operating. Prior to 2006, Canadian universities did not require overseas students to be permanent citizens. The conditions of student visas include a prohibition on paid employment and the requirement that students depart Canada upon completion of their studies. As of the 2006 academic year, overseas students were permitted to work off-campus for a maximum of 20 hours per week during the academic year and full-time during school breaks (Gates-Gasse, 2012). Changes in foreign students' imagined futures (Simmons, 2010) are reflected in the CEC programme. According to Fleras (2015) "the Canadian Experience Class (CEC) allows both foreign students who have successfully completed a Canadian university and highly qualified temporary workers to submit a permanent residency application without having to leave Canada, provided that they have skilled work experience, legal residence in the country, and mastery of English or French." Graduates of Canadian post-secondary institutions who meet the CEC program's requirements for minimum full-time study and skilled work experience in Canada after graduation are eligible to apply for permanent residence in Canada (Fleras, 2015).

The CEC, as pointed out by Johnstone and Lee (2014: 216), gives foreign students a chance to compete for jobs in Canada without having to leave the country. Successful graduates have easier access to the workforce and are rewarded with higher citizenship points. Canada benefits from well-educated, highly-skilled workers but bears the financial burden of their education or the education of the nation sending them. Furthermore, the nation of origin loses the next generation of its most talented workers and intellectuals. By going this way, immigrants reinforce the idea that they help the economies of rich countries at the expense of poor ones.

2.1.3.2. Provincial Nominee Program (PNP)

The PNP was established in the latter part of the 1990s. Through the PNP, the individual provinces of Canada are given more responsibility for the immigration process. The PNP's principal objective was to encourage newcomers to live in provinces like Prince Edward Island, which had historically seen low rates of immigration. The PNP is a way for each province to nominate and recruit potential immigrants based on their own criteria and goals in light of an agreement with the federal government (Fleras, 2015). Provinces like Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia are utilising the scheme to lure potential new residents. When compared to the conventional point system for picking competent newcomers, the PNP reflects a localised, economic alternative, one that links immigrants to companies while injecting sorely lacking growth and diversification throughout Canada, as Fleras (2015) puts it government cost savings and labour market goals achieved through PNP and CEC both represent examples of neoliberal policy instruments. Government spending on labour force renewal and replacement is temporarily reduced thanks to these schemes. To be more specific, other than the fact that almost all recipients of these programmes are young, they are self-sufficient due to their socioeconomic origins.

In two crucial respects, the PNPs facilitate the admission of overseas students who have completed post-secondary education in Canada. Because they are already in Canada, they avoid the hassle of applying from abroad like most other immigrants do, and because they have already tested the Canadian way of life through their work. With study experience, they have an advantage over other applicants when it comes to being accepted as permanent residents. That is to say, they will have an easier time adjusting to life and work in Canada's workforce than their foreign counterparts.

2.2. The Economic Context

Hicks believes that salary disparities mainly cause variation in net economic benefit and argues that "the major reasons for migration are variations in net economic benefits, particularly inequalities in earnings." (Hicks, 1932: 76). This is a consensus among economists, and a comparison of the gross domestic product scales of the pulling and pushing nations demonstrates how significant a difference in income is (OECD, 2000; Munshi, 2003; Mander, 2007, and Kerr, 2008; Coppel et al., 2001). Economists like Picot and Sweetman (2012) argues that economic benefits are primarily attributable to migration to Canada.

A geographer, Walton-Roberts (2012), also said that the economic benefits in Canada remain the major "pull factor" and that they continue to draw individuals from

all over the globe. While the main "push factor" is significant, Nigerian youths have lost hope and aspirations in this case out of insecurity, low income, government instability, unemployment, no job security, common living standards, and several other reasons. The result is a mass movement to Canada, the United Kingdom, and several other countries in the world where they feel that they can have everything. In the latest Punch newspaper article, educated Nigerian physicians alone in the UK have more than 7,785 (Punch 24, July 2020). A survey reveals that a physician earns less than \$600 a month in Nigeria, compared to their counterparts in Canada, the UK, and other wealthy countries. The push effect is also not going away as quickly. The Aljazeera study also showed that more than half of the 72,000 doctors registered with the Nigerian Medical and Dental Council (MDCN) work abroad.

2.2.1. Decision/Determination on Social Well-Being

The usual explanation for why economic variables make up most of the research corpus is that salaries and job prospects are the main reasons why people move around the world. Another contemporary debate centres on the welfare state's consequences. Peder et al. (2004) highlight the value of social networks, the isolation of cultures and languages, and the danger to one's property. Individuals migrate for two primary reasons: freedom and safety. Additionally, they assert that high levels of social services and benefits (which have historically been a characteristic of other OECD member nations) may influence migration choices regarding destination location (Peder et al. 2004). Borjas (1999) also contributed in the function of social programmes as a draw for prospective beneficiaries. Additionally, he proposes the idea of the "benefit magnet," in which he thinks that immigrants are drawn to assistance programs and certain countries due to the "rich" social safety nets they provide. If a certain ethnic group already lives in a country, it might do so because it wants to be close to other people from the same place of origin. According to scholars, one of the most significant markers of a migrant's early success is their qualification and competence, as well as fluency in the English language. As companies seek candidates with superior education and training, those living on a subsistence level face continuous competition for available work, particularly when they lack foreign-based skills or qualifications. Abdul-Karim (2018) observed that when compared to native-born Canadians, newcomers have better educational attainment but worse labour market outcomes.

Furthermore, the degree to which migrants are economically integrated is influenced by each migrant's level of linguistic proficiency. Migrants who cannot communicate effectively in English suffer a significant and temporary disadvantage due to their language constraints (Waugh and Derwings, 2012; Chiswick and Miller 2014; Picot and Sweetman 2011).

2.3. Migration Policy

Human capital theory and neoliberalism have played an increasingly important role in shaping reintegration and migration policies in developed countries. The research on economic reintegration should consider this connection. Personal assets like knowledge, education, and athletic ability are all considered essential "capital" under the human capital theory by (De Hass 2008). Zimmermann and Bauer (1998:99) found that the form of diversification in employment opportunities and the importance of

socioeconomic status of a person's traits and "capitals" in the choice to migrate are all taken into consideration when formulating policy. According to Picot (2013) the most often claimed economic goal of Canadian migration policy is to alleviate labour shortages in certain professions. This is the typical way in which immigration is "sold" to the general public. The Canadian labour market seems to be faulty since it does not educate or equip individuals for short-term employment that is presently accessible. In contrast, the long-term issue is population growth; there are insufficient employees to support a strong economy and tax base, according to Picot's analysis. These considerations explain Canada's migration policy. The Canadian economy would be in freefall if it weren't for the influx of newcomers. The Canadian Conference Board is among several nonpartisan groups that have called for an increase in Canadian immigration to over three hundred thousand yearly to relieve labour force problems and help the country compete in the global market (El-Assal and Fields, 2018). This is not unique to Canada. It is estimated that almost all the high-income industrialised countries are experiencing comparable labour shortages, which the influx of immigrants will partly alleviate. Immigration rules that are economically selective and require applicants to be highly qualified to be admitted are becoming the norm, following a model that has been successfully implemented in Canada and Australia recently. Even as the Canadian policy on immigration has been centred on the socio-economic results of its migrants since 1993, some other developed nations are adopting the same approach.

2.4. Social Economic Development in Nigeria

Nigeria's socioeconomic situation is poor, and many of these problems may be attributed to the push forces. There is an undeserving socioeconomic standing as a result of the shortcomings of several institutions. If handled well, NIS (Nigeria Immigration Services) is one of the institutions that, if handled well, may contribute to healthy socioeconomic development. Because there aren't enough people with the required skills, Nigeria's human capital level is poor, which contributes to the country's low overall productivity. According to published research, over 150,000 highly qualified Nigerians in a variety of vital professions—including nurses, midwives, doctors, and engineers—left the nation. It is clear that their choices were influenced by "push" influences in Nigeria as well as "pull" ones from their different destinations. To what extent has the NIS warned the authorities of the country about the loss of its brilliant workforce and the reasonable number of competent employees who are leaving the country? Every government in a nation state has a responsibility to promote socioeconomic growth, and people anticipate seeing progress when one administration changes into another.

The efficiency of all governmental sectors is involved in this growth (Patrick et al., 2014). Socioeconomic development can be derived from the terms "society," which refers to the nation, and "economy," which describes the productivities and money in circulation. Development is the level of advancement and improvement of a nation with regards to the economy. A suitable degree of productivity that is intended to be performed by the workforce is required while evaluating the development of an economy (public or private institutions). In order to generate the composite goal of socioeconomic development, a productive nation state needs a respectable number of qualified workers in the required disciplines. Critical and innovative thinking abilities are highly recommended, and socioeconomic growth in a country's state is stunted or proceeds at a low speed when these folks are lacking. The phenomenon of globalisation

and international migration is that it provides a platform for the exchange of ideas and inventions with other nations. A nation-state establishes a migration agency to maintain order and keep track of these people (migrants) as they enter and leave the country. The operations associated with managing international migration are mounted at several points inside the country. This implies that the agency has a responsibility to be aware of the number of skilled individuals entering and leaving the country at each interval. Uju and Joy (2014) argued that socioeconomic growth is important for the health and safety of a nation-state.

Development, according to Fayomi (2013) refers to a fair rise that is progressively manifested physically and is readily apparent. We might thus conclude that growth is a process. Development is not stagnant; whatever it is, it either advances or regresses. Progress in a nation-economy state is also equated with development. All nations wish for progress since it is their pride in the global community and it drives them to be the best at what they do. When a significant portion of the people of a nation-state enjoy a decent level of life, that state is said to have developed. The expansion of a nation-state's economy is analogous to that nation-state's development. And, in order for a nation-state to enjoy growth and economic success, it must invest in a focused, effective plan. Development is connected to progress, Charisma (1984) argues that is the demonstration of development in every facet of a nation-state's existence, including its culture, economy, politics, and education, among other areas not specifically mentioned. Productivity, which includes generating and growing well at an acceptable rate, is likewise correlated with development (Kuhnen, 1987). A nation-state's status and growth may be evaluated using development as a tool. Considering Nigeria, it is clear from the literature that while the country is endowed with resources, poor resource management and Nigeria's low level of productivity have prevented it from reaching its potential. A state's ability to develop is crucial for gaining highly regarded worldwide recognition. Every country state in the global system has several levels and positions, and they are based on the degree and place of growth that a nation-state reaches. As was already said, literature also shows that development is a process rather than a fixed state. By taking the necessary steps to the present, progress has been sustained.

The quality of life for a nation's people reflects that nation's growth (Adah and Abasilim, 2015). A nation-state is said to be developing when its residents have access to a variety of goods, services, and opportunities, including housing, health care, education, and other options that fit within the nation-state's economic, social, and environmental frameworks. Numerous academics have linked development and international migration in their writings (IOM, 2013). The inexpensive lifestyles and adequate living standards of people in that society are explained by socioeconomic progress. An improvement in one aspect of the state, such as the job market, social amenities, or the educational system, is considered socioeconomic development in a nation-state. All of the improvements we just talked about could be seen in the future as things that make people want to move to a state. Positive change in a state's economy is linked to socioeconomic growth. Improvements may be seen in all state sectors thanks to socio-economic growth. Nigeria's socioeconomic progress has been hampered by security problems brought on by numerous acts of violence, political unrest, and corruption in many spheres of the Nigerian government. Every ethical government administration works on ways to improve the nation's socioeconomic development

status. No socioeconomic progress can occur in a society where there is a lack of security since people's lives and possessions, including their investments and enterprises, are at risk. This is one factor that causes investors to analyse their alternatives and rule out certain states. As a result, a state's security is crucial since, without it, its socioeconomic growth cannot advance.

Nigeria's leading position is being lost because of the security situation (Ewetan and Urhie, 2014). If the right skilled people are produced and encouraged with assistance from the Nigerian government, and for the purposes of this study, the effective responsibilities of the NIS as regarding monitoring and luring of skilled individuals into the country, the Nigerian state has the potential to become better than its current status. Nigeria has a sizable economy, so there will inevitably be visible prosperity in the country. For this to happen, the NIS, among other institutions that make up the government, has obligations regarding security, which include the coming and going of people and goods. This is highly advised because where there is insecurity, there will inevitably be little to no socioeconomic development. (Federal Republic of Nigeria, 2017) Instead of getting resources from other countries, Nigeria needs highly qualified people who can get access to all the resources they need. Literature shows that a state's socioeconomic progress cannot occur without a credible security situation. What is security, therefore, given this? Nwagwuwu et al., (2015) believes that security means peace, independence, and a very safe environment. According to Okechukwu et al., (2017) security denotes safety; it's a haven of safety. Keli (2010) argues that the degree of security of a society or organization—in this example, a nation-state—is determined by the level of security awareness at the society's entrance and leave points. The Nigerian Immigration Service's efficient operation is one approach to increasing the country's security. To back up this claim, Haas (2007) also said that Nigeria's reputation as a dangerous country makes skilled migrants and skilled Nigerians want to leave the country.

2.4.1. Examining the State of Socioeconomic Well-Being

Ipsos (2018) believes that Canada is the most liberal and welcoming nation when it comes to immigration. More than 20,000 people were surveyed from 27 nations to evaluate their social acceptance of heterogeneity and whether the immigration status of a person, place, both criminals, and definite political opinions can determine "genuine" citizens of that nation. People in different countries were asked different questions about who a real citizen is. It was gathered that Canadians were widely receptive, not considering one's origin, belief, and what one stood for. Many studies focus on the social, economic, and employment outcomes of migrants. At the same time, less attention is paid to the effect of immigration on other aspects of life, like their health status and general well-being. The Gallup poll (2013) evaluated migrant financial satisfaction in over 100 countries using both factual data (such as money, housing, nutrition, and job availability) and intangible state of life such as happiness and optimistic and pessimistic feelings (Pugliese et al. 2013).

With a northern and southern income difference, the finding reveals that migrant nations and where they migrate to and how long they stay have an impact on their general well-being. Northern Migrants migrating to other northern nations had promising lives of contentment, personal and economic stability, health, and community

connection in their host nations. On the other hand, immigrants moving from the South to other parts of the South encountered more significant difficulties. There is no hope of breaking through economically. They struggled to maintain a decent quality of life. Moreover, emigration has a minimal financial impact on them. Safety is a top priority for these migrants. They also lack confidence in their host nations, have less community connection, and express the most health worries. Those migrating from developing economies to the developed economy (South to the North) had financial disadvantages compared to the indigenous people. They worked hard to adjust, but nonetheless, they were financially advantaged over those who did not move. Even as residents of their present country are still gloomy about their future life, new immigrants (those who have lived in their target country for a few years) are hopeful of a great life, Pugliese et al. (2013). According to Safi (2010) people who migrate from countries in the global south report lower levels of happiness than their native-born counterparts. Whether it's a job or a relationship or a health issue, this is true for everyone.

Safi maintained that happiness among migrants does not rise with time as they integrate into new countries. She further said that the people of the global south who have settled in Europe are among the most miserable and dissatisfied people on earth. According to Forsythe (1979) relocation of some professions is highly inadvisable and has a more significant negative impact on the sending country than any pay gain. Numerous Nigerian migrants in Canada with high-paying professions have accomplished much and amassed money. They are better off than they were in Nigeria, and many have outperformed their Nigerian counterparts. However, others have been unable to get the work they want and have settled for low-wage jobs that sometimes do not cover their bills. Sen (1977) believes that a significant impediment to talented immigrants obtaining employment that matches their qualifications is a lack of Canadian experience in specialised professions. It has resulted in some migrant workers seeking entry-level jobs for which they are better qualified. The purpose of this research is to move beyond the descriptive explanations for such findings and to attempt to understand the effect of migration on young Nigerian immigrants.

2.4.2. Challenges Migrants Experience in General

Individuals who relocate to a foreign country may experience psychological challenges. Perhaps this is why Herberg (1982) proposed a timetable for resettlement in which a person's existence "dies" in one cultural context and "lives" again in a new one. It is suggested that this phase of renewal is laden with oppression due to a number of factors. These factors range from ecological issues to racial and ethnic conspiracy theories. The immigrant encounters various potential or real hazards of novelty (Aroian, 1990). Masi et al. (1993:265) define "novelty" or "cultural shock" as the confusing and dangerous sensation of insufficient knowledge encountered by migrants. This newness, also known as the "fresh-man/fresh-woman" syndrome, is defined by a lack of fundamental physical cultural adaptation norms, psychological knowledge, and skills to cope with the simplest chores, as well as a lack of the social conformity essential to manoeuvre in the new culture. That might make the life settlement process more difficult, putting at risk the ability to maintain a certain standard of material well-being in the global economy. Masi et al. (1993: 265) argues that a lack of awareness of subtle cultural norms, such as styles of social interactions, is much more devious and complicated. These obstacles add up to emotional distress throughout the resettling

process. At some point, the migrant must not only adjust to his or her new, sometimes frightening, environment in which he or she must make do with a scarcity of resources, but also overcome the loss and sadness of separation and detachment from home, people, things, and places.

Thus, the importance placed on novelty is a cultural phenomenon. As a consequence, migrants face the challenges of multiple transformation that are intrinsic to the relocation process. And since they are relocating from one part of the world to another, migrants often have to make substantial physical adjustments to their new home. Terrorist threats, as well as the unfamiliarity of the area's topography, climate, and natural catastrophes, as well as the unfamiliarity of its criminal and traffic laws, political violence, and law enforcement practises, have recently been added to this list. Migrants must also consider where and how to get recipes that are suitable for the local food supply, since this aspect of culinary culture is subject to change. Also at play are differences in family structure and norms of behaviour; for example, migrants may be perplexed by the prevalence of restaurants and hotels in seemingly random spots across both urban and rural areas. The migrant's brain will be continually tested by the unfamiliarity of mall life, park activities like camping, and outdoor pursuits like hiking in the woods. Recently, internet has been used to raise awareness by arranging and contacting Nigerian youngsters to participate in camps centred on the cultural area of belonging of the host nation.

2.5. Social Transformations

According to Masi et al (1993:266) migrants cut ties with their previous social networks. Thus, the shifts in the social capital network cause significant psychological strains. Relocation causes a breakdown in the foundational social networks and familial cohesion. When one leaves their home country, they leave behind not just their personal and social networks, but also the roles and responsibilities they had in their previous community. Offoaro (2007) in his write up on the need of moving to Nigeria, gives specifics about this upheaval within the context of the want to return from overseas and resume one's former life. Unemployment, stagnating wages, and subordination all contribute to the stresses that immigrants and refugees face mentally, as do the aforementioned societal changes. All of the above-mentioned circumstances might make it easy for immigrants to hold on to resentment and even harden their hearts towards other countrymen.

2.5.1. Tensions and Cultural Changes

Several recent Igbo-Nigerian migrants have observed that the values, ideologies, and societal pressures cultural baggage—with which they arrived are unlike those they will need to live successfully in the host country. This is true in the Middle East, Australia, Europe, North America (Canada & USA), Russia, China, Japan, Hong Kong, Israel, Dubai of the Arab world, and other places. When one travels around the world, one quickly becomes aware of the growing population of migrants coming from all corners, including one's own. More differences between one's own culture and the dominant host culture seem to be the norm today than they were for prior generations of migrants. Herberg (1989) argues that modern migration trends show that immigrants (apart from refugees) are more informed and better equipped than those of previous

generations. Religious practices, displays of cultural heritage, and the need to assimilate via formal and informal channels like schooling and commerce all contribute to a society that is more open to outsiders and prosperous as a result of its variety of culture. Even yet, being unable to do day-to-day activities because of a lack of adapting to the new culturally necessary life skills and language fluency is a significant source of stress. Lack of fluency in the language used in one's host community not only hinders one's ability to find gainful work, but it also prevents one from forming meaningful relationships with others who do not share one's cultural background.

The inability to communicate in one's everyday activities due to a lack of fluency in the language required to do so is a significant disadvantage. A lack of cultural and social competence is a major contributor to stereotyping, bigotry, discrimination, and racism. Inadequate social-mental communicative access to acceptable job and complete wellness-opportunities for globally educated professionals and varied immigrant workers, despite their better educational credentials and work experience, is a major social-mental communicative impairment. Iroegbu and Olivia (2005:17) argue that one of the main factors affecting immigrants' ability to succeed in the job market is effective language, and that this is particularly true for those who are experiencing difficulties with language proficiency (whether in English, Spanish, Portuguese, French, German, Dutch, Arabic, or another second language). Given the aforementioned problem, it is not surprising to find that the inability to speak the host language has been associated with schizophrenia in men, as suggested by research notes and conclusions such as the one postulated by the Canadian Task Force on Mental Health Issues Affecting Immigrants and Refugees in 1988 (Bland & Orn 1981). According to William & Carmichael (1985), a research conducted by the Canadian Mental Health Association on immigrants found that both males and females had feelings of despair due to their inability to read and write the language of their new home. Challenges in learning to speak or write the language of the host community have been linked to behavioural deviance in youngsters (Marcos, 1982). There was a time when intelligence quotient (IQ) was used as a metric of physical discrimination of people's potential for growth, learning, and self development. This was during the heyday of physical anthropological studies of human differences such as skin tone, blood group, height, and skull shape. As so, despite racialism's debunked status as a scientific discipline, it was widely accepted as a reliable method for ranking the various peoples of the world by their relative merits. Culture is still the stumbling block of research. Hall (1976) developed the concept of contextualising a facet of settlement because he believed that cultural shifts were problems related to domestic life.

As a result, his idea was used to define post-industrial civilizations as distinct from so-called "third world" or developing countries. Hall distinguishes between "low-context cultures," such as those found in industrial areas, and "high-context cultures" such as those found in universities and the arts. According to his definition, people in high-context societies have deep ties to their extended families and maintain hierarchical, gender-segregated social structures inside their own households. The norms of corporate kinship connections are based on a shared feeling of purpose and belonging among members of the family, as well as a commitment to working together and supporting one another. In this manner, Hall demonstrates how the cultural settings of countries like Canada and the United States are often poor environments for adaption

by immigrants. That is, immigrants have the difficulty of forming new social connections with each new environment they enter, a task that necessitates the development of skills that add demands, tensions, and disorientations to the immigrant's mental existence.

As members of a society with a strong cultural background, immigrants from Nigeria must learn to adjust to many changes in their new home. On the one hand, a whole slew of unexpected and potentially dangerous scenarios are brought into play by the physical, social, and cultural changes that accompany relocation (Baker, 1993:268). Instead of a single benefit, there are several losses for everyone to take into account. Finally, he argues that the migrant must have the ability to navigate a new social and cultural landscape. Immigrants often experience mental stress as they try to make sense of a new environment, and Nigerian immigrants in Canada are not immune to this phenomenon. The immigrant participates in a palliative cultural mechanism by making friends, learning a new language, finding employment, and building a network of support and home in order to come to grips with the losses and benefits common to waves of migration. When a sizable number of newcomers from a certain ethnic group all wind up in one area, they often find a way to solve the problems they face settling in by coming up with their own solutions. One strategy is to set up an ethno-cultural institution that will serve as a hub for the exchange of ideas and practises between the new community and the one that the migrants came from. We must now ask what functions these establishments provide as a direct result.

2.5.2. Challenges Migrants Experience in the Labour Market

According to Jack et al. (2012), since migration policy is mostly based on economic considerations, the majority of newcomers to Canada are there for economic reasons. However, some have expressed worry about the difficulties newcomers encounter in assimilating into Canadian society and the workforce. Bevelander and Pendakur (2012) found that it is hard for immigrant workers to find jobs that take into account their education, training, and work experience from their home countries. An individual's ability to communicate effectively in a foreign language is critical, as are the difficulties that come with learning a new language, the difficulty of finding work that accepts one's foreign credentials, and the scarcity of job prospects (Schellenberg and Maheux, 2007). According to Slade (2008), this refers to the knowledge about Canada and its ways as a "new head tax" imposed on newcomers in order to keep them out of the labour market. Previous research also highlights gender as well as where the migrants are coming from as important predictors of migrants' chances in Canada. Gilmore (2008) claims that employees born in Canada are paid more than migrant employees overall, and the pay disparity has widened substantially since the turn of the century (Gilmore, 2008). Chui (2011) also said that more women than men work in jobs that aren't safe, and that women of colour usually get temporary jobs when compared to men of color. Sweetman and Picot (2011) opined that proficiency in Canadian languages (English or French) substantially impacts immigrants' integration, even their employment chances and their earning capacity. Though language ability is not a significant determinant of job placement, it can influence the type and quality of occupations acquired by immigrants and is a factor in their economic position. They further suggest that migrants who are fluent in the official language have a better chance of obtaining their desired employment than those who are not. There is a paradox in

Canada's immigration policy: immigrants with a lot of education and work experience get points, but once they get to Canada, they find out they are not "qualified" to work in their field.

Furthermore, women encounter additional obstacles like sexism and xenophobia, all of which restrict them from obtaining employment that is appropriate to their background. According to Martins and Reid (2007), some women whose spouses cannot find good-paying employment suffer financially during their first two years and are unable to assimilate into their new community. Within the family, there are significant gender factors to consider that affect economic integration. According to Zaman (2010), when husbands were working and women were not, they tended to retain "gendered" beliefs of their culture. The unemployed women of this kind established connections with individuals of a similar cultural background and reacted negatively to Canada's economic, social, and political environment. She does, however, believe that specific cultural and religious standards are beneficial to the overall integration process. It was easier for women to integrate into Canadian culture when they were allowed to wear their traditional or religious attire, get advice from individuals of similar cultural backgrounds, and balance their responsibilities as mothers and wives. Even though they thought their own and their families' incomes weren't enough, these women were less stressed about money.

2.6. Theoretical Framework

The neo-classical economic studies Todaro (1969) have concentrated on the economic goals of the solo migrant, whereas the New Economics of Labor Migration (NELM) theory Stark (1991); De Haas (2010) has attempted to place the monetarily driven immigrant within the framework of his or her family. Both models agree that the prospect of increased material well-being plays a significant role in family and individual choices to relocate. But, for modern migrants in Canada, the New Economics of Labour Migration Theory is more suited. However, Canadian immigration policy has always been based on the neoclassical approach, hence it is important to understand and characterise this viewpoint.

2.6.1. The Neoclassical Economic Approach

According to the neoclassical economic theory, migration is a "rational" decision taken by an individual in search of a better life with more outstanding standard of living, jobs, job stability, as well as a higher income. The immigrant's decision is assessed in terms of the factors compelling them to move to other countries and those motivating them to go to the target country. De Haas (2008) in the micro-level perspective of migration, migrants are described as individual rational agents who make decisions based on cost-benefit analysis. Immigrants are expected to settle in areas where they may be most resourceful and earn the highest wages, provided they have complete access to all relevant data, which will enable them to decide rightly. This capability is determined by a person's unique skills as well as the form of labour markets. Borjas (1999) proposed a foreign immigration market where prospective immigrants choose their destination based on personal preferences and cost-benefit analyses. His work is still influential among migration economists today. Neoclassical economic theory explains migration at the macro level through regional variations in

labour supply and demand. Due to pay disparities, workers migrate from low-income, labor-surplus areas to high-income, labor-scarce areas (De Haas, 2008).

Ravenstein (1885) recognised two types of migratory variables, sometimes called "push and pull" forces. The pull forces are actual or believed to be genuine in the destination country, whereas the push factors are fundamental or perceived to be confirmed in the place of origin. According to the idea, each migrant is a rational actor. He chooses the least expensive (travel expenses, housing expenses while hunting for job, and relocation expenses) and most profitable (in terms of income) place to go. Other models, like those suggested by Lee (1966), proposed highlighting various barriers and possibilities experienced throughout the migration process towards the previous model's pull-push elements. Their focus on payment inequalities between the place of the sending and the country of receipt. These concepts are well aligned with the neo-liberal approach to migration that dominates immigrant entrance requirements. According to Van den Berg and Bodvarsson (2013), the model ignores people who relocate for reasons other than economic benefits, such as family reunion, seeking asylum or moving to a more attractive culture and religion. The neoclassical theory's focus on demand factors in receiving countries and the consequences for migrants' origin variables, like dynamics of the labour market, level of income, insecurity, conflict situation, or public policy of the country of origin, is a weakness. It also assumes that all knowledge, credentials, as well as training, are evaluated objectively with no bias. The opposite is true. In any event, this is the preferred way of thinking about the Canadian economy by the federal government. It is important to understand this because it has had a big effect on how Canada's immigration policies are set up and run.

2.6.2. The New Economy of Labor Migration

Stark and Bloom created (NELM) The New Economics of Labour Migration approach, commonly referred to as the family investment model, in the 1985 (1985). This theory views migration as a collective survival tactic rather than a personal one. As a result, they are viewed as a single family, a cohesive unit comprised of ethical individuals working together for the benefit of the entire household. According to (NELM), it is challenging to explain migration within a neoclassical framework, especially when it occurs in settings of risk and poverty. Instead of only an individual's attempt to maximise their income in response to anticipated wage differences, NELM views immigration as a unified family technique to survive market imperfections and distribute income risks (Stark and Bloom 1985; Stark 1991). Given the lack of notable income disparities, this opens up a wide range of explanations for migration. NELM also says that relative poverty and economic differences between sending and receiving cultures are important reasons why people move (Skeldon, 2002). The NELM viewpoint makes the fundamental premise that in a family, family aims come before individual interests. According to the notion, important family members decide whom to move and who should remain in order to serve the interests of the rest of the people. Where households need money, the choice of who should relocate is based on the anticipated income of the person in the target nation. The popular notion of the unitary model, recognising that social connections influence family decision-making, rejects an examination of unique chances and motivations and often overlooks conflicting family goals. Both ideas have advantages and disadvantages. The NELM theory likewise

ignores the interests of people and approaches migration from a family viewpoint, in contrast to the neoclassical economic approach, which concentrates on individual level self-interests. Critics point out that economic benefit is not the sole reason people migrate, and even this cannot be explained by simple payment and employment differences (De Haas, 2008; Chant, 1998). Often times, immigrants lack a thorough awareness of other possible immigration destinations and do only a limited amount of research before arriving at their destination, in this case, Canada. Immigrants are frequently unaware of the full range of options available to them while looking for a new home. Decisions in the face of ambiguity and incomplete knowledge may be made by relying on information from the migratory network. According to Massey et al. (1993), there are "usually a set of relational connections that unite new and old migrants via bonds of family, friendships, and shared community origins." In this research, the NELM theory was concentrated, but he examined personal economic motives. The NELM point of view adds to our understanding of how family events and experiences affect immigrants' economic and social lives. The question of perception in research examines factors that influence immigrants' understanding of the social and economic conditions of Canada.

2.7. Conclusion

A few of the studies on the financial outcomes of migrants were discussed in this section. It showed an obvious flaw: almost all economic studies don't look at how migration affects families and individuals, not just those looking for work and a good income, even if it's for financial reasons. NELM, is a theory that suggests that migration is not solely determined by the push-pull factors that influence an individual's decision to migrate, but also by the economic and social networks that support the process of migration (Piore, 1979). The theory of human capital and NELM are competing for views that explain the financial results of migrations. Still, While NELM has been challenged for oversimplifying the complex and multidimensional nature of migration, it can nonetheless help us understand individual and family migration experiences in a variety of ways. To begin, modern research has actually demonstrated that NELM is a crucial foundation for comprehending the experiences of migrants and their families in a globalized environment. For example, research by Hondagneu-Sotelo (2007) indicates that NELM is helpful for comprehending the experiences of migratory women who work in low-wage jobs and depend on family networks to care for their children.

NELM also offers a helpful framework for comprehending the experiences of refugees and asylum seekers who frequently depend on social networks to find jobs and access resources, according to study by Van Hear and Bakewell (2011). In this setting, NELM emphasizes the value of comprehending how migrants get around the social and economic obstacles they encounter while migrating. One key contribution of NELM is its emphasis on the economic factors that drive migration decisions. According to Massey and Espinosa (1997), NELM sees migration as a response to changes in the global economy, particularly the increasing demand for labor in developed countries and the decreasing opportunities for employment in the sending countries. This approach acknowledges that migration decisions are often shaped by economic forces and that individuals and families may be compelled to migrate due to economic necessity.

Furthermore, NELM also highlights the role of social networks and family ties in migration processes. For instance, Hondagneu-Sotelo and Avila (1997) argue that social networks are essential for facilitating migration and that family members often play a critical role in supporting the migration process. Hondagneu-Sotelo and Avila suggest that understanding the role of social networks and family ties can provide insights into the social and cultural contexts that shape migration experiences.

Finally, NELM also emphasizes the importance of understanding the ways in which migration experiences are shaped by broader social and political structures. For example, Pessar (1995) argues that migration experiences are shaped by gender, race, and class inequalities, and that these inequalities can have a significant impact on the ways in which individuals and families experience migration. This approach recognizes that migration experiences are not solely determined by individual decisions but are also shaped by broader social and political contexts.

Therefore, NELM has contributed significantly to the understanding of individual and family experiences of migration by highlighting the economic, social, and political factors that shape migration processes. While it has been critiqued for its focus on labor market forces, the framework provides important insights into the complex and multi-layered nature of migration experiences.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1. Analyzing the Young Migrants' Experiences in Calgary, Canada

A research methodology refers to the systematic procedures used to collect, analyze, and interpret data in order to answer research questions or test hypotheses. The methods used in research can vary depending on the field of study, research question, and data sources. There are several types of research methods which will be briefly summarized below in the following section.

3.2. Qualitative Research Method:

A qualitative research strategy is used to get deep knowledge as well as facts from participants' feelings, views, and concerns about research, (Patton, 2002). The reason for this design is that the topic is interpretable and realistic. According to Creswell, (1998: 15). Employing a qualitative approach, the researcher investigates a common or human issue, creates a complete overall picture, analyses language, presents the informants' in-depth perspectives, and performs the research in a native context. According to Patton (2002) the importance of the qualitative approach in this research is that it respects the research respondents' experiences and enables them to speak candidly about them in natural situations in order to get unique perspectives of their experiences devoid of generalisation.

A qualitative research is used to gain insight into and comprehension of people's inner lives, including their thoughts, feelings, and actions. Data that cannot be represented numerically is collected and analyzed. Qualitative studies are conducted when a thorough comprehension of an issue demands in-depth investigation. This method is useful because it enables scholars to delve deeply into topics and settings, uncovering hidden meanings and motivations for people's actions. Among the many techniques used in qualitative studies are: Researchers are conducting interviews with people to learn about their backgrounds, perspectives, and attitudes. Focus groups are discussions in which researchers assemble small groups of individuals to hear diverse viewpoints on a single subject or problem. Researchers obtain insights on human behavior and interaction via observation, either in natural or controlled settings. Case studies are in-depth examinations of a single person, organization, or circumstance that draw on a variety of data points and methods.

Documents, publications, and social media postings are only few examples of the types of textual or visual assets that may be subjected to content analysis. While doing qualitative research, the researcher may gather and analyze data several times, modifying their approach and questions in light of new information. Instead of using data to verify hypotheses or quantify results, the focus is on generating precise descriptions of the phenomena being studied. It covers the study group description, research design, recruiting methods for the participants, data gathering, analysis, and ethical concerns.

3.3. Participants and Research Area

The research area is Calgary, the capital of Alberta. For immigrants in 2021,

Alberta was the fourth most popular province in Canada. Located in Western Canada, the province of Alberta is home to some of the country's most popular natural wonders. The province of Alberta is well-known for its oil and natural gas reserves, cattle ranching, the Rocky Mountains, and the Dinosaur Provincial Park, among other things. Agricultural, forestry, education, tourism, financial services, and manufacturing all rank in the province's top five most important sectors after oil and gas. Immigrants seeking to save money will appreciate that Alberta has lower taxes than the rest of Canada. Calgary is the fourth most popular place for people to move to in the country, after Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver. Calgary is Alberta's most populous city by far. Calgary's location in the foothills of the majestic Rocky Mountains makes it a perfect destination for those who like being outside. One of the world's biggest outdoor rodeos is held in Calgary, and the city is also home to the Calgary Stampede & Exhibition. The two sunniest cities in Canada, Calgary and Edmonton, have more hours of sunlight than any other city in the nation. The sun's rays help Albertans get through the harsh winters, which may reach as low as -51 °C in certain areas. During the summer, temperatures soar to as high as 35 degrees Celsius in certain regions of the province. The participants chosen for my research have spent five months to five years in Canada. This period has been selected because prior research has indicated that as immigrants stay longer they prosper economically. According to Grant (1999) people are less likely to remember events correctly over time. Recent immigrants to Canada are preferable.

3.4. Research Design

Yin (2003) highlighted 3 criteria determining the study design: the kind of research inquiry posed, the investigator's management over real behaviour, and the emphasis on current events. The study design aims at guiding researchers through the collection phase, analysis, and interpretation of findings. (Yin, 2009). This study's primary aim is to learn more about the perception and socio-economic intent of young Nigerian immigrants in Canada. Hence, it is conducted in an investigative manner, including some narrative elements. The views of the participants are mostly about how happy they are with different parts of their lives in Canada, how happy they were in Nigeria, and what problems they are having in their new home. Qualitative and descriptive research methods are needed to fully combine and analyse the points of view of all participants because these things are abstract and personal.

3.5. Research Strategy

The narrative method would be utilised as part of a qualitative research design to study migrants and their socio-economic well-being as part of a broader integration process. Connelly and Clandinin (1990) opined that it is one of the most utilised quality research techniques in which the scientist seeks ways of understanding and interweaving the true knowledge of respondents to create a coherent history. Descriptive investigation increases knowledge which would otherwise have stayed quiet. It utilises storytelling to communicate the tales of participants to a wider public (Wang and Geale, 2015).

3.6. Technical Selection and Population Research

The Nigerian immigrants living in Calgary are the target group for this research.

There are individuals (above eighteen years old) who have arrived by themselves or have already reunited with family in Canada, either born outside Canada or in Nigeria and who are Nigerians. The research used snowball methods to attract volunteers. According to Vogt (1999), snowball sampling is a way of recruiting volunteers for research, with a single subject recommending another subject and so on. It is utilised when prospects for research are difficult to locate (Vogt, 1999).

3.7. Method of Interview

Semi-structured interviews were used to gather information for the research. It's a good technique since it allows the researcher to dig deep into the perspectives, participants' experiences and expectations while simultaneously allowing them to bring in fresh insights into the research topic (Boyice and Neale 2006). The significance of having face-to-face conversations with any (online) means with others has long been emphasised by Malinowski and the classic ethnographer Burgess (1982), in this case, virtual interview. In this research, a semi-structured interview results in a basic process in which participants' knowledge of their social environment is built via regular human encounters Rorty, 1980). Data would be gathered from all research participants using an interview guide. Each section of the study guide would include a different set of questions. During the first part of the survey, they were asked some age and gender status questions to better understand the participants. The second part focuses on the participants' pre-migration and post-arrival socio-economic experiences in Canada. There were a variety of topics covered in the interview, including the participant's views on economic prospects for Canada, their job searches in Canada, and any noteworthy experiences. The questions focus on their labour market entry experiences in Canada as well as circumstances that compelled them to make a job change decision and investigate their choices for a new profession in Canada.

Finally, a question whose goal was to determine the effects of their decision, why did they make this decision, and how has it affected their lives in Canada? Would they still make the same decision if presented with new options? Investigating these problems was critical in gaining a better understanding of their pre-migration socio-economic circumstances and their post-migration circumstances in Canada.

3.8. Interview Process

Before initiating the interviews, the research design was briefly explained to the interviewees, and then the interviewees acknowledged that they had received. All participants were given a copy of the consent form. Seven of the interviews were conducted through a Whatsapp video conference, while the other three were conducted via Team Meeting. The interview lasted an average of 40 minutes to an hour and 20 minutes. The interview was in two parts. Observations from the participants were noted. They were thanked for their willingness and time to take part in the research after the interview. Between April and May 2022, 10 participants were interviewed. Their ages vary from 25 to 40 years old. There were seven men and three women among the participants, seven of whom are married, and three of whom are single. (See Table 1 and 2.)

Table 1.0 Respondents Socioeconomic Profiles

| Name | Number of Years in Canada | Number of Jobs Since Arrival | Livelihood Before Leaving | First Job in Canada | Present Job in Canada |
|-------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Michael | 4 | 5 | Head of finance | Caregiver | IT support staff |
| Stephen | 3 | 3 | Lecturer | Store keeping | Finance head |
| Nneka | 4 | 5 | IT expert | Receptionist | Data analyst |
| Hyman | 2 | 3 | Insurance agent | Adult care giver | Assistant caregiver supervisor |
| Remi | 3 | 5 | Admin staff | Admin assistant | Customer service |
| Ambrose | 2 | 3 | Welder | Security guard | Welder |
| Amanda | 3 | 5 | Teacher | Care giver | Waitress |
| Ndubusi | 2 | 4 | Insurance staff | Waiter | Restaurant Manager |
| Raphael | 1 | 2 | Auditor | Stock taker | Admin assistant |
| Adaeze | 2 | 5 | Banker | Receptionist | Customer service representative |

Table 2.0 Respondents Demographic Profile

| Name | Gender | Age | Marital Status | Level of Education | Entrance Level | Number in Household |
|-------------|---------------|------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Michael | male | 30-35 | Married | MSc degree | Study visa | Couple with three children |
| Stephen | male | 25-30 | Married | BSc degree | Study visa | Couple with a child |
| Nneka | female | 22-28 | Single | BSc degree | Express Entry | None |
| Hyman | male | 25-30 | Married | MSc degree | Express Entry | Couple with |
| Remi | male | 31-35 | Married | MSc degree | Express Entry | Couple with two children |
| Ambrose | male | 25-30 | Single | MSc degree | Express Entry | None |
| Amanda | female | 20-25 | Widow | BSc degree | Study visa | Couple with two children |
| Ndubusi | male | 30-35 | Married | BSc degree | Study visa | Couple with two children |
| Raphael | male | 20-25 | Single | BSc degree | Study visa | None |
| Adaeze | female | 25 - 30 | Married | Msc degree | Family Re-union | Couple with two children |

3.9. Validity, Dependability, and Correctness of Research Tools and Data

Two of the most basic qualities of any measuring process are validity and reliability, which are vital to any study, whether quantitative or qualitative. According to Neuman (2006) Validity'' is the extent an instrument accurately measures that which it is supposed to measure. Valid, genuine, credible, and trustworthy research designs provide a researcher the opportunity to get the right answers from the selected individuals. If this is not possible, the study design is flawed and might lead to inaccurate results. A measuring instrument's reliability is defined by Blanche and Durrheim (1999), as the degree to which it produces the same findings on repeated trials.

Steps were taken to assure the reliability and validity of the interviews guide. A Pre-testing were carried out to be certain that the questions were well understood by the participants. The answers to the interview questions were clarified thanks to the input of three other students. The accuracy of the spoken data was guaranteed by the use of an audio recording of the interview. Direct quotes (low-level descriptors) were also employed by the researcher to provide readers a glimpse into the world of the participants (Ary et al., 2006, p. 506). As a result of this research, Nigerian migrants in Calgary- Alberta were selected and interviewed. In qualitative research, credibility is a trustworthy criterion to verify the correctness of qualitative results (Lincoln, Schwandt, & Guba, 2007). The degree to which the outcome or result of research may be trusted is credibility. A copy of interpreted and analysed report was submitted to the respondents to confirm that nothing was removed or added to the responses.

3.10. Analysis of Data

The dataset was systematically examined, focusing on the repeating patterns and themes that were captured in the questionnaires. For the research, the data was coded many times to discover the most important themes. In order to identify shared threads among participants' responses, qualitative data was analysed using simple codes. The study began with the researcher's predetermined categories and then moved on to uncover new themes revealed by the stories of the participants. Methods for extracting themes from data using Altride-Stirling's (2001), thematic network method Analysis of data sets is done by identifying common patterns that may be used to describe a particular phenomenon or research subject (Braun & Clarke, 2006). Thus, the goal of thematic networks is to investigate how a concept is understood and to extract from a text the important themes for study at various levels of abstraction (Altride-Stirling, 2001). The topics needed for investigation were divided into three categories:

The primary theme is the first and foremost significant trend to emerge from the data. It provides relatively little information about the data sets and shows the data features during the early stages of analysis. The central subject must be understood by the audience in the context of other similar basic concepts that combine to form an organising theme. An organising theme brings together the key ideas of many basic themes and outlines the key presuppositions that support these more general subjects and are pertinent to the whole of the work. This means making one possible subject out of all the codes from the essential topics, instead of just grouping them together in the first step. The global themes are referred to as the unifying themes that have been grouped together to form a single theme in order to provide an explanation or viewpoint on a subject of inquiry. A global theme communicates to the reader the general topic of the text by It presents conceptual pathways within the framework of a certain investigation. Basic themes, which I also referred to as primary themes, emerge from a data set, like: "why did you migrate to Canada?", are coded and set under similar subjects like "economic considerations," such as "job satisfaction," "career advancement opportunities," and "want better incomes or pay" and familiar protocols. It is therefore possible to construct a thematic network using all of the organising themes (e.g., migration intents) together. Lastly, the explanatory data about the participants and each of the codes is provided, and examples of quotations from the transcripts are made accessible for the study's examination.

3.11. Constraints and Impediments of the Research

Just like with any investigation, a number of difficulties was encountered. As for the first issue, it has already been discussed: some people are reluctant to be questioned; couples were not interviewed. Other difficulties stem from the nature of the qualitative approaches being used. Some claim that a qualitative study's results cannot be extrapolated because of its small sample size (Creswell, 1998). Even while the results cannot be generalised to populations inside or beyond Calgary, they do provide insight into the context of how young Nigerian migrants make migration choices. Cresswell (1998) argues that the goal of qualitative research is to comprehend the context as well as circumstances, never to extrapolate them.

Lastly, the fact that it is limited to just Calgary, and this might have an impact on the findings. A small sample size restricts the degree to which participants and results may be generalized. The study is limited to a particular nationality, and as the sample isn't big enough, it will be impossible to extend the findings to other immigrants coming to Canada or to other nations. Obtaining data was also an issue since most respondents were constrained by the amount of time they had available due to their hectic work schedules. On more than two occasions, the participant failed to show up for an appointment that was scheduled had planned because they had forgotten about it. Unforeseen circumstances necessitated the cancellation or rescheduling of some engagements. The time allotted for the gathering of the data was extended because of this circumstance.

3.12. The Selection Process of The Interviewees and The Criteria Applied

Given the geographical disparity between my residence in Antalya, Turkey, and the research area in Calgary, Canada, I employed the snowball sampling method for selecting the interviewees for my research, which focused on "Nigeria Immigration to Canada: The Case of Calgary."

Firstly, as a member of an Nigerian in diaspora association which includes individuals living in various parts of the world, including Calgary, Canada. I leveraged this network to establish initial contacts in Calgary who could contribute valuable insights to my study. I explained the research's objectives and scope to two association members in Calgary and requested their assistance in referring me to individuals in the Calgary area who would be willing to participate in interviews regarding the topic. The snowball technique, which is where each interviewee referred me to additional participants, helped me to build a chain of contacts. From this network, I carefully selected interviewees based on certain criteria, ensuring that I had representation from each category. This approach allowed me to create a more nuanced and informed analysis of the immigration experiences of young Nigerians in Calgary, aligning with the research's objectives.

The criteria I used for selecting interview participants revolved around the type of visa they had used to migrate to Canada, as well as the number of years they have been in Canada. This grouping allowed me to capture diverse experiences and perspectives

among Nigerian immigrants in Calgary. Specifically, I sought participants who had arrived in Canada on study visas, family reunion visas, and express entry visas. As per number of years I selected participant between 1 to 5 years in Canada. This selection process aimed to provide a holistic understanding of the socio-economic challenges and opportunities faced by immigrants from Nigeria in Canada. This approach enabled me to conduct meaningful interviews and collect valuable data, contributing to the depth and richness of my thesis research.

In summary the snowball sampling method, coupled with the criteria I deployed enabled me to conduct meaningful interviews and collect valuable data, contributing to the depth and richness of my thesis research.

4. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Both receiving countries and people seeking short- or long-term residence are affected by immigration. Economic growth in both the country of destination as well as that of origin may be positively affected by migration if the right policies are implemented (United Nations, 2017). Migrants, however, face unexpected difficulties in their new nations, despite the great advantages of migration. The respondents, among whom some were newly arrived Nigerian immigrants, revealed three main themes about Canadian social and economic conditions:

1. Economic conditions and reasons for migration before arrival
2. Respondents' and their spouses' contentment with their post-migration lives and jobs, as well as
3. their future prospects.

In this section, these results are shown along with an explanation of the data that was used for the qualitative analysis.

4.1. Before Arriving in Canada, the Condition of the Economy and the Purpose of Emigrating

Among several main themes are the economic motivations for young Nigerians migrating to Canada, as well as the economic difficulties they face once they arrive. In this study and other studies, the most frequently reported part of the integration process is family concern about their economic security. The following items are included in this theme: work experience, purpose of moving, initial and present employment.

4.1.1. History of Work

In order to get the conversation going, I had the respondents speak about their prior work experience back home. Nine of them had jobs while at home, while the other was jobless. Among their previous occupations were finance, academia, teaching, computer science, IT, and tourism. Nine people claim employment instability as a big factor in their decision to move to Canada, whereas one person cites a job loss as a major one. Ndubuisi's story of losing his job in Lagos, Nigeria is a common one. To which I inquired, he replied:

I studied insurance and upon graduating, I began working with an insurance company in Lagos, Nigeria, but subsequently, owing to the situation of the nation, most insurance companies went down. As a result of the downsizing, I was forced to leave my position. Setting up my own firm was a last-minute decision on my part, and it's impossible to predict what will happen since the economy wasn't favourable to a start-up business. As a result, I jumped at the chance to go to Canada as soon as it presented itself.

Ndubuisi is a married father of two, a former insurance employee, and currently a restaurant manager. Another participant who was one of the first teachers to come in 2021, had really studied teaching back in Nigeria, specialising in African literature and educational administration. She said: "Prior to moving to Canada, I was a high school

English teacher in Nigeria." Currently a waitress (Amanda), a single mother with 2 kids, her husband's death left her and her children in need of a fresh start. Due to the high level of health care and education available in Canada, she was inspired by her niece's decision to move to Canada. She'll be near her extended family if she moves to Calgary. Another lady said: *"I used to work for the government back home as an I.T. specialist." I felt ambivalent about relocating, and I wasn't very excited about it. I just moved to Calgary to be closer with my spouse. It was because of marital concerns.* A former IT manager, Nneka is currently working as a data analyst.

4.1.2. Purpose of Migrating to Canada

Not surprisingly, the majority of the respondents are economic immigrants since two-thirds of all newcomers to Canada fall into this group (IRCC, 2017). Some Nigerians go to Canada for other reasons as well. Both men and women are concerned about their children's safety and the potential for a higher education and a better profession. According to Michael,

I left mostly for security reasons, but there are other concerns, such as the education of our kids. Before we relocated to Canada, we were doing extremely well in Nigeria, but the country's security situation was catastrophic. We are from the northeastern part of Nigeria, where terrorist groups have made life difficult. I am back to school. This is also one of the many reasons I moved here for both economic and educational reasons. My education back home pales in comparison to what is offered in Canada. Teachers back home often go on strike, which is very different from how they are treated here. First and foremost, I'll declare that financial stability and my children's education are my top priorities.

He's a former finance director who is now a member of the support staff. My results are in line with those of Shackelford (2010), who concluded that the main driving force behind migration is parents' worries about their kids' social and academic needs. Others say that the main reasons to move to Canada are the better social and political conditions and higher level of safety compared to Nigeria.

4.1.3. First Work Experience in Canada

Most of the individuals who were asked about their first occupations in Canada responded by saying they were part-time or low-paying positions that helped them get by. According to a participant's recollection,

I got my first job as an aged care giver at a retirement home, which was my first job after arriving in Canada. Because I'd never dealt with the elderly before, becoming a resident of a retirement home was a whole new experience for me. It was a genuine challenge, and one in which I failed miserably, as I wasn't maintaining effective lines of communication. I kept repeating myself because they couldn't understand my accent. I was frustrated to the point that I contemplated returning to my previous position back in Nigeria. Dealing with the elderly and educating teenagers is a two-way street. (Amanda, who was a teacher back then in Nigeria and is currently a waitress.)

Nneka, a skilled I.T. expert, was unable to turn her intellectual capital into a substantial economic advantage upon arriving in Canada and instead found employment as a receptionist. According to her,

I was not as pleased with my first job in Canada as I expected to be. I figured the worst-case scenario was that I'd get a job as an IT assistant or even anything I T. Unfortunately, I couldn't, so I worked as a receptionist and am currently a data analyst.

Some others spoke about how difficult it was to have their professional qualifications recognised in Canada. Immigrants often have difficulties in getting their qualifications acknowledged, and Raphael's story exemplifies this. He resigned from his position as an auditor before migrating to Canada. On arrival, his credentials as a qualified auditor were not accepted to earn him the same kind of job he previously did back home, but rather he was offered a position for which he was vastly more qualified. Raphael is now employed as an administrative assistant in Calgary, Canada, where he is also actively furthering his studies to resume his previous line of employment.

I was educated as an auditor in my home country. I was a supervisor in the executive ranks of a multinational firm. However, when I arrived here, I discovered that returning to my previous career was not as straightforward as I had anticipated. Because it would have taken me four years to join a professional organisation and pass the necessary examinations to get qualified, because I was concerned that pursuing the complete degree or certification in Canada would place a financial burden on me, I sought alternatives that would take less time. My first job was a stock taker in a manufacturing plant.

He's been an auditor back home and is now an administrative assistant. All of the people who took part in my research said they worked in a position for which they were considerably overqualified but had to accept it at the moment for the sake of survival. Immigrants from a wide variety of nations often experience this.

4.1.4. Present Job in Canada

Upon their arrival in Canada, nine of the ten participants had held three or more occupations. The majority of them had changed occupations in order to get additional perks as well as increase their income. The Nigerian immigrants improved their standard of living and income with each job change. Some of them were able to return to their previous careers. When Ambrose initially arrived in Canada, he worked as a security guard, even though he had worked as a welder back home. He acquired more training, which enabled him to secure his desired job at Alberta Hydro. But this was true for most of the participants, who had to take jobs with less qualification than what they had in Nigeria. For example, Nneka, an ex-IT professional, who is currently working as a data analyst said:

There are all kinds of tales about how great Canada is, how easy it is to get one dream job, and how many chances there are for people to start life here with one. However, the actual situation is totally different from what I had anticipated. One may have to do tasks that aren't in your area of expertise.

Migration is a complicated process, regardless of whether it is temporary, permanent, voluntary, or forced. Before they can call a new country home, migrants may face difficulties in the process of settling in, adapting, and integrating. The fact that Nneka was unable to find work in her profession left her feeling unhappy and torn between returning to Nigeria and remaining in Calgary. Her choice to remain in Canada was heavily influenced by her desire to be close to her family. Upon arriving in Canada, all participants saw their employment status deteriorate and were forced to accept positions for which they were overqualified (at least temporarily). Well over half of all migrants endure a major decrease in their employment position as a result of the lack of recognition of their qualifications, not minding that it contributed to the required points for entering Canada (Wilkinson et al., 2016). It was because of this that almost all the respondents went back to school to obtain their Canadian certification.

4.2. Before and After Arriving in Canada, Life Satisfaction

The results in this part explain the followings: Canada as the first choice for immigration; how long it took to find a job; the level of satisfaction with your first employment; and how satisfied you are with your present profession and your work life balance.

"Was Canada your first option for immigration?" is a question posed to the participants. There was a wide range of opinions. In contrast to the participants, many answered yes, whereas a few participants said that Canada wasn't their first choice. For example, an ex-insurance staff currently working as restaurant managers Ndubuisi, who is married and has two children says:

My initial option was to come to Canada with my family, and I was fortunate enough to have an older brother who had already settled here. Canada seemed to me to be a nation where people had a lot of opportunities to improve their lives. I believe Canada is even better than the United States when it comes to free health care.

"My best choice is Canada. I have several reasons for choosing Canada," said another participant, Ambrose, who was once employed as a security guard and now works as a welder for Alberta Hydro. Other participants, on the other hand, had no intention of going to Canada at all. Remigus is a married father of two who worked as an administrative assistant before transitioning to a position in customer service, and explains his experience as:

First, I relocated to the United Kingdom, where I resided for the better part of a decade before making my way to Canada. The economy of the United Kingdom is very constrained. Even if you have a college degree, you won't be able to find work in the country's robust economy, which is much different from Canada's. In the last two years, I've seen that this place is more adaptable.

Another interviewee Hyman, who used to take care of adults and is now in school to become a nurse, is married and has three children. Hyman says:

My initial option was Australia. But because the Australia was more difficult to

settle in, coupled with my conviction not to reside without proper documentation, I decided to move to Canada. With Canada, you may apply for permanent residency and citizenship via a valid method. My first idea was to compare Canada to the United States, which are more industrialised nations, albeit that Canada provides more opportunities for immigrants.

Finding one's first job usually takes two to three weeks for the majority of participants. involved in the discussion. Remigus was jobless for a while and said, "It just took me a little over two weeks. The cause of my unemployment was because I was very picky in my employment search." When compared to another interviewee, Michael, it looked even better. Michael, who is a married father of three with a master's degree in business, spent three weeks to find a job. Overall, they had a negative outlook on the typical waiting period, with the exception of a few outliers, believing that the time spent looking for a job resulted in squandering their savings.

We were furious that we had to spend all our savings while waiting for job. We had to pay the rent, we had planned on finding a job within two to three days of what we were informed, but it took us four weeks to accomplish so. My memory is of a time when we had to tap into our savings to care for the children. We utilize our savings to pay our rent and operate the whole home.

The participants had conflicting feelings about their initial work experience in Canada. Others had mixed feelings about their first jobs in Canada. Most job seekers were hampered in their efforts because of the low value placed on international qualifications. Almost everyone who took part in the study thought it was demoralising to work in jobs that they were overqualified for. Nneka, a married woman who was once an IT professional but is currently a data analyst, was not able to get a position that was appropriate with her qualifications despite her four years of experience. At one point she was devastated and had to pick a receptionist job when she arrived to Canada:

I believe I am underutilizing my enormous potential. Working as a receptionist, does not require much. My potential is not being used to its fullest. There is much more that I know and think I am capable of accomplishing but am not doing. I feel like I've lost my value.

Amanda was not comfortable with her first job; she relocated to Alberta in 2021. She was even more enraged by the fact that she had to take on many jobs in order to survive. She had to choose between caring for her family and doing just one job and expressed that she "wasn't happy since the money I receive isn't enough to cover my monthly expenses. I was forced to work longer hours and began looking for another job." Other individuals attributed their partial or poor work satisfaction to a variety of other factors. A major factor in their decision to return to school was mainly because of less pay, which was as a result of the low-status job they picked in order to survive as they arrived in Canada.

According to the testimonies of the participants, the majority of the men appeared content in their current positions. On average, seven out of ten participants (six men and one woman) expressed satisfaction and contentment with their current job, which they described as their second job in Canada after migrating. Participants were

happier when their financial situation stabilised and their income rose, in addition to feeling better about their work lives as a result of their subsequent employment. One participant, Adaeze, who was a female customer service representative and married with two children and was once a teacher said, "You know, I'm happy, you know! The perks, the working environment, and the overall vibe all come to mind. In other words, if your workplace is comfortable and familiar, you're more likely to be content." A former waiter Ndubuisi, who is now a manager in a restaurant and who had with two children said, "I'm delighted, and content having been promoted to the position of restaurant manager. As a manager, it gives me the chance to meet another group of individuals that sharpen my ability and I'm hopeful to attain a greater height. In other words, it's a unique and wonderful opportunity for me, as far as I'm concerned."

Remimus, who works in customer service, used to be an administrative assistant. He is married and has two kids. Despite Remigus's dissatisfaction with his present employment, he is still hopeful that he will get a job that he can be proud of. As he says:

I may not be completely content with my wage, as it is human nature to always want more. However, for the time being, I will still work and handle some responsibilities at home to make ends meet. My spouse works full-time and we have children in school. You know, I have to drop them off and pick them up all the time. These two jobs are what I'm stuck with for the time being. However, I am certain that I can improve.

Amanda, content writer who is currently working as a waitress laments:

I am unhappy with the work I do currently. I can't think of this as building a career. It is only because of the circumstances that I found myself in this position. As long as I'm not too old to acquire more knowledge and continue with my content writing skills, I may return to school.

But, despite laws that are supposed to keep people from being treated unfairly because of their race at work and elsewhere, Ambrose who is currently working as a welder with Alberta Hydro told the following story from his current job:

Now I'm pleased and happy since I've accomplished what I set out to achieve in the first place, despite the bigotry. A small minority of white individuals are unable to collaborate with black people for racial or religious reasons. They don't want it, despite the fact that everyone is working hard to earn their own money. They're constantly looking for excuses to blame you for things that aren't really your fault. There are things they can't do to their own sons that they will do to you because you are black. That's the only issue I see with my present position.

Racism in the workplace does, unfortunately, exist. In the course of my studies, I came upon this issue often. Ambrose brought up racism even though it wasn't specifically addressed in my interview guide. A story from the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) backs up his claims. Workplace discrimination was rampant, according to a construction site report from Northern Hydro (CBC, 2018). Following

the study, the hydro site's working environment was evaluated. They came to the conclusion that the workplace culture of discrimination was deeply ingrained. Racial insults and other offensive remarks were prevalent, and tensions between indigenous and non-indigenous employees were high. In the research, several respondents claimed that they had preconceived beliefs about racial profiling and that the absence of indigenous cultural education among non-indigenous labourers exacerbated the problem of distrust, animosity, and misunderstandings (CBC, 2018).

4.3. The Impact of Employment Insecurity on Family Life

The stories of the participants in this research revealed that even though they had a higher degree and more experience, most of them worked in low-paying occupations that had a negative impact on their families.

In spite of having earned a master's degree in Nigeria, Hyman voiced his dissatisfaction with the type of job he was able to get with his postgraduate credentials. Hyman is a married father of three who has worked as an adult care giver and is now enrolled in nursing school:

Back in Nigeria, I was an agricultural manager, but here I worked as an adult care giver. Even if you haven't attended school, you are capable of completing this task. To get the job done, you don't need a college degree. My degree wasn't compensated either. I resigned from my job and am now attending classes full-time. As much as I can, I strive to maintain good relationships with my family. I try to spend as much time as I can with them. I am happy that my wife is working full time. In my first year of school, I was away from home for almost the whole year. In a few months, I will be completing my nursing degree. To make ends meet, I work full time during the summer.

The second problem that impacted a considerable number of participants in our research was working longer hours. Eight out of ten of the people who took part in the work-life balance study said that they work extra hours to pay their bills, which affects their families. The desire to earn more money was cited as a key factor in the longer workdays.

Stephen narrates the difficulties his family had as a result of his changing jobs frequently:

Because of the differences in culture, I spend less time with my family here than I did in Nigeria. In Nigeria, you may choose to spend all of your night time with your family. But here, if you want to achieve the same result, you'll need to get a high-paying job with a lot of responsibility. That's only one task at a time. However, if you're like most people, you'll have to juggle two jobs. In the morning, you may go to work; then, after spending some time with your family, you must return to work, which is exhausting (Stephen, who was a lecturer back home and is currently a finance head).

One of the participants, Hyman, who he is a married father of three who has worked as an adult care giver and is now enrolled in nursing school, said:

Back at home, I only worked during the week. But in Canada, we're eager to get our hands on whatever job we can get our hands on. For the sake of my family's well-being, I leaped at every chance to work in my prior job and left my loved ones behind. I've previously put in days when I worked for 22 hours straight. As soon as there is a possibility for an extension, I'll jump at the chance since we really need the money to keep going here.

Adaeze, a mother of two children and a former receptionist, is currently working as a customer service representative; and she explains how working in Canada changed the family relations:

My family used to enjoy supper together, but that no longer happens. There's no time for a family meal; my kids are already in bed when I come home. Our family doesn't have much time to talk. Though my spouse works part time, he still spends most of his time away from home. Either he's at class or at work, depending on his schedule. To make a long story short, the only days of the week on which we have the opportunity to get together are Sundays or public holidays, which is kind of sad.

Parenthood is a collective duty in the majority of African nations, similar to the situation in Canada. However, back home, grandparents and relatives often provide assistance and support to parents in raising their children. This may enable parents to continue in their various professions while raising their children. Families with two wage earners are more prosperous economically than those with only one. From the interviews, it was clear that families were struggling to establish harmony amid domestic responsibilities and career responsibilities, yet some families found a solution. Families with teenagers can care for themselves and help with the younger members of the family, whereas those with toddlers as well as kindergarten-aged kids sometimes need the assistance of their parents or a senior citizen member.

For Ndubuisi, and some of the participant households, the oldest kid takes care of the children while their parents are busy or at work as well. When deciding whether to raise their kids in Canada or get a job here, immigrant parents, especially those with young children, have to make a tough choice. As Mr. Michael lamented:

It was much easier to get assistance with the kids back home since I had a large family to lean on, but that's not the case here. My wife and I's work schedules are both severely impacted by our three children. I sometimes remain at home to babysit the kids while my wife goes to work; it's either that or she stays at home. As we had previously agreed, when we were back home it wasn't like this.

Adaeze and Morrison, a married couple with two young children, had the good fortune to have a Canadian grandmother watch after them while they were both at work. They couldn't have been happier. Here it's worth pointing out how often immigration experts assume things work in reverse, which is a major flaw in their thinking! It is more difficult for immigrant women to acclimate to life in Canada since they must work, something they did not do in their previous nation. When we look at the lives of Nigerian families, this sexist idea is blatantly untrue. Gender roles have been re-examined in light of shifting societal standards. The notion that home maintenance and

kids' welfare are the only things women should do has changed over time. In Canada, males are taking on greater child-rearing tasks than they did in Nigeria, despite the fact that the majority of the work is still done by women. Child-rearing becomes a shared responsibility between parents and older children when they are ready to do so. Families in Nigeria, like those in Canada, have reacted to changing gender roles and economic realities by making childcare a family responsibility. Many studies on the economic integration of immigrants fail to take into account the costs these immigrants have paid to guarantee the financial security of their families. While working families sacrifice quality time with their children, my research shows that elder siblings and other family members often step in to help out with childcare obligations when both parents are employed full time.

4.4. Techniques to Cope with Issues Relating to Work.

Most participants thought that returning to school to get a "Canadian" certificate might enable them to put an end to the difficulties of getting their desired job. Amanda opted to return to school after trying for over a year to find work in Canada with her previous qualifications:

I'm now in the process of returning to school. Then, based on what I've seen and heard, I'd think that having a Canadian degree and then specialising in a field with high demand is a smart move. Friends and relatives have told me that there is a strong need in Canada for nurses since I've known individuals who already had employment after they graduated from nursing programs, even before they finished school. I've also seen that folks with degrees from this school had an easier time securing a job in the healthcare system, and a great position to start with.

Hyman supports Amanda's view:

I suppose I could say that I'm hopeful now that I've quit the job I was doing and returned to school. On the other hand, I'm optimistic about what I'm doing right now. When I graduate from university, I want to enter the nursing profession, which I've heard is a lucrative one.

Finally, even as the male participants are furthering their education, some of the female counterparts are waiting to educate their children first. Self-esteem and confidence might deteriorate over time when an immigrant struggles to find meaningful work in a new nation. Newcomer job seekers may be affected by this experience and their families may suffer as a result. For job seekers like Remigus, a married man with two young children working as a customer care representative, the most important thing to remember is to never give up hope in their job quest.

Despite the difficulties, I believe I've done my best to acclimate to life in Canada. After all, as my late father often said, everything worth doing is worth doing well. Every day, no matter how difficult the situation may seem, you must put up your best effort and have faith that things will improve. A job search is much like that: you have to offer all you've got until you've nailed it.

Aside from the difficulties he has had finding a career, Remigus says that being involved in some social activities and volunteering for some charity organizations' events has helped him adapt effectively. In order to facilitate effective integration, it is also beneficial to have a strong sense of community. There is a sense of optimism for the future, despite their hardships. Most of my participants have a bright future ahead of them.

4.5. Perspective on the Future of Canada

Do you have a negative outlook or a positive outlook on Canada's economic prospect? What's your reason? All the respondents were quite upbeat when questioned about their expectations for the future of their economic situation in Canada. Their stories reveal that work and income stability are major elements in their optimism. Ambrose, an Alberta Hydro welder, says:

As far as I'm aware, Canada is a fantastic country to save for the future, but that doesn't mean it's easy. It's better to work for something and get it than to work and not get it. Is it clear to you? Here, you may be paid after only one minute of labor, but in Nigeria, it might take six months to get paid. As a result, the knowledge that you have a comfortable location to reside and work provides you with a sense of security.

In other words, there is a greater sense of financial security because of the certainty that comes with having a steady source of income, as well as a strong economy and job satisfaction. The availability of social services, including assistance for families, education, skills, and shelter, inspired many participants. Confirming this, Remigus says:

Though there are a few constraints in Canada's system, which is meant to allow you to discover new things. As long as it's done legally and not in violation of the law, you may be anything you want to be. With the government's financial support, you may go back to school to further your degree. A wide range of financial aid options are available to students. I mean, it's simply there, no explanation necessary.

According to this opinion, many Nigerians, despite their early difficulties and disappointments, remain positive about their future in Canada. In Canada, most people are more hopeful about their futures than they were in Nigeria. According to Ndubuisi:

I am quite positive since I discovered my work is a lot more secure; my job is full time and is secured." I also came to the realisation that to achieve your goal, you must not have so much saved. You will succeed if you have an excellent credit history, have a solid business strategy, and follow through with your goals.

Nevertheless, despite the general positivity, one person expressed dissatisfaction with Canadian living.

Nobody cares about you in Canada; you may find it tough to return a greeting

even if you say "hello" to someone. In Canada, we don't have the same sense of community as we have back home. It's all about me, me, me. They don't treat their neighbours with respect or affection. Here, all I see is myself, my self, and myself. In my opinion, this is a bad trait to have. (Amanda)

She further said that she finds it difficult to have friends in Canada because everyone minds his or her business, unlike in Nigeria where you can easily make friends. Those who were born in Canada have a widespread belief in the individualistic culture of Canadians, and because of this belief, making friends may not be easy.

4.6. The Socio-Economic Perception of the Respondents

Following the positive comments from the stories of the chosen participants could show how people in general feel about their social and economic situation: For example, Ambrose says "I mean, you may do more than one job if you have all it takes here; there are jobs available. There are numerous occupations available here, as a result I believe Canada is economically stronger compared to Nigeria". Stephen supports this:

I like the government's policies. In terms of having a family, at least, they pay more. The situation is better if you move to Canada with a family than if you arrive alone. The economy really cares for you when you come here as a family, since there are areas where you can turn as a unit to gain. And in that case, Canada seems like a good place to remain.

According to Remigius, a married man with two kids and an administrative assistant before becoming a customer service representative, Canada is a great country for couples to settle and establish. He opined that the Canadian government has put several programmes in place to assist households. He further said that his first priority has always been his family:

You know that the finest gift I can give them is education, and I am certain that my children will succeed in Canada due to the high standard of education available there. I believe it will enhance my chances and enable me to get connected to the system. You know, identifying the groups that can provide you with the help you need simply requires a little investigation. As you may know, there's a lot of government assistance to help one achieve his or her goals in life.

4.7. Discussion

The primary goal of this study is to investigate recent Nigerian immigrants' general perceptions and their reasons for migrating from Nigeria to Canada, their level of satisfaction in Canada, and their perspectives on future opportunities in Canada. I was especially interested in hearing about the problems they had getting used to life in Canada and what they thought the future held for them there. Some of the things I've learned through my investigation have to do with what motivates Nigerians to immigrate to Canada. Most of the people coming to Canada were doing so because of the country's great standard of living. In Nigeria, unemployment rose to 9.79 percent in 2021, while inflation skyrocketed to 17 percent (Nigeria National Bureau of Statistics, 2021). This is despite the fact that the nation possesses enormous oil reserves and a

plethora of other natural resources. The economic inability to keep up with the creation of goods and services has contributed to continued inequality, particularly among the poorest parts of society. For example, Nigeria's population is expected to grow by 2.55 percent in 2022.

In 2020, Canada's GDP was \$1.65 trillion, making it the ninth biggest economy in the world. Canada has a well-established energy extraction industry. It has the third-largest confirmed oil reserves in the world. Current estimates indicate that the country's economy will increase in the future years. Moreover, democracy and labour laws make Canada a more desirable migration destination. As a consequence, Canada has more economic options than Nigeria, which is still a low/medium income nation. As a result, it is not unexpected that an increasing number of Nigerians are flocking to Canada to take advantage of these economic prospects. This is seen in the rising number of Nigerians who have arrived in Canada during the last 10 years. Nigeria has remained in the top 10 countries of origin for all entrants to Canada throughout this period. Even more recently, Nigerians have made up the majority of would-be migrants who have traveled from the United States to Canada, therefore circumventing the Safe Third Country Agreement.

The participants' comments revealed that one of the main driving forces for their migration was the welfare of their families. The males and females that took part in the study agreed that this was crucial for better career prospects and, ultimately, a greater quality of life for everyone. The respondents agreed that Canada's educational system was significantly superior for their kids compared to Nigeria's, which is plagued by non-payment of teachers and other non-academic staff salaries, resulting in regular strikes. While Canada is in the first 20 nations in the world doing well under the three categories of the Human Development Index (HDI) assessment for 2022, according to the UN. Nigeria, on the other hand, is in the last, under the same index. Out of 189 member nations, Canada is in an amazing 13th position, while Nigeria plummeted to 161st. The results of my research confirm that life is certainly much easier in the host nation than in the sending nation. Critically, economic factors are not the only reasons that propel migrants; rather, all other factors that make life easier contribute to the reason for choosing Canada.

The research confirms the results of Maheux and Schellenberg (2007), who found that the main factors luring new immigrants to Canada were safety, opportunities for the family's future, as well as a stable and harmonious environment, and many more. Again, the neoclassical theory can't explain these things well, but they're still very important to this study because they affect most Nigerians' decisions to move to Canada, even if it seems like they're mostly doing it for their own economic gain.

Neoclassical economics attempts to explain global migration as a phenomenon driven primarily by regional disparities in the availability and demand for labour inequalities in the push and pull situation in the employment sector, which results in salary variations and drives migration from low-paying nations to high-wage ones (King, 2012). This theory is only partly applicable to my research since it neglects to take other migratory drivers (such as family benefits) into account, as well as the fact that the host nation's policy most often ignores the past experience of immigrants. Overall, it does a terrible job of elaborating on why Nigerian immigrants choose to go

to Canada.

According to the AFI report, the top five "push factors" for Nigerians seeking migration opportunities to Canada are the desire for better career opportunities (75%), increased insecurity and violence (60%), the desire to provide a better future for their children (55%), further education (40%), and perceived poor governance in Nigeria (35%). Despite the fact that Nigerians may value the economic prospects Canada provides, it seems that many of them are not very fond of the Great White North's severely cold winters. A typical winter day in Nigeria may reach 40 degrees Celsius, a far cry from the 58-degrees-below-zero winters of White River. Surprisingly, only 1% of Nigerians said that the weather was a reason why they wanted to move to Canada. Twelve percent of Nigerians immigrated to Canada in search of better economic opportunities, while three percent came to reunite with relatives.

There are still some unanswered questions left by the prior conceptual framework, which (NELM) attempts to address (Mueller, 2013). Rather than focusing on the survival strategy of a single immigrant, it focuses on the survival strategy of the whole family. People who migrate aren't just individuals; they're families or households that want to optimise their income and career prospects, especially for their children. Migrants may be sent abroad for the purpose of revenue diversification and to curb the number of people without employment in unstable economies (Stark, 1991). In addition to the job market, NELM also looks at structural factors that affect families. This is in line with what the people who took part in my research found. According to the NELM hypothesis, this research is more significant since it considers the complete family, which is the most common unit that migrates. The study's results show that there are other reasons for migration than economic benefits, such as the enabling environment, the availability of social amenities, and the children's prospects.

Furthermore, my results provide credence to previously conducted studies on the challenges that many newcomers to Canada encounter as they attempt to settle in the receiving nation. Almost all the participants in my research had a difficult time integrating into the workforce, particularly in the early phases of their transition. It is clear from my research that newcomers to Canada experience a wide range of issues when it comes to obtaining a job, but it is also consistent with previous findings, which show that economic challenges are part of the obstacles immigrants encounter as they enter Canada. Most immigrants had difficulty finding employment. For the majority of them, it took between two to three weeks before they found a job in Canada. New immigrants would be forced to live on debt and savings till they find a job. In addition, my findings show that most people are dissatisfied with their first employment (Gilmore, 2008; Maheux and Grant 2007; Sweetman and Picot 2011; Schellenberg,). As a result, they are unable to get work in Canada since their credentials aren't recognised there. Thus, individuals find themselves working in positions that are disagreeable and underpaid. Even while many Nigerians were happier in the long run, they were nonetheless vulnerable to difficulties with international credential validation. Studies conducted by (Zaman, 2010), (Pendakur and Jacks, Javdani, 2012), Wilkinson and her cohort (2016), and Schmidt (2009) on recognising credentials from elsewhere show that the absence of non-acceptance of foreign qualifications as well as previous experiences of newly migrant workers contributes to the economic challenges they face when they arrive.

My research also revealed that many Nigerians have difficulties obtaining certification to operate in legally defined professions. A study by Abdul-Karim (2018) further stated that even immigrants who attend Canadian universities are less likely than their Canadian-born peers to get employment in regulated professions. If you have a Nigerian degree, you have a very limited chance of finding a job in Canada, even though you were given "points" when you arrived here. This provides more evidence that the neoclassical premise doesn't quite hold true for recent immigrants, (Slade, 2008), (Gilmore, 2008), (Liu, 2006), (Zaman, 2010). Even though they were overqualified for the jobs they had, the Nigerians in the study seemed happy with what they were doing. Their contentment was mostly attributable to the freedom in their work schedules and the increased cash they received. Participants' feelings of fulfilment at work were reportedly bolstered by the existence of a more positive work environment and more job stability. Most people, on the other hand, would like to work in a position where they specialise. Many of my participants had to work multiple jobs or "off hours" because there were jobs available which enabled them to earn more money and live a comfortable life (Van den Berg & Bodvarsson 2013). To put it simply, this implies that they'll have to work extra hours at work and spend fewer hours with their families than they did in Nigeria. Many people find themselves in completely new work situations and responsibilities that need a variety of commitments. For example, one of the respondents who had worked as a content writer and is now employed as a waitress has had difficulty communicating with her guests because of her accent. A second person (Ambrose) had to deal with racism at work as well. Even though Nigerians tend to be happier with their jobs the longer they live in Canada, they still have to deal with a lot of problems and problems.

According to my research, factors outside of the labour market also have a role in economic integration, as I had assumed. Amanda, one of the women interviewed, expressed her feelings of isolation and lack of support. To provide one example, she claims that Canadian society encourages introversion and individualism while the culture back home is more extroverted and group-oriented. According to the "mind your own business" attitude that is common in Canada, Nigerian immigrants are more likely to have mental health problems because they aren't used to living alone. They are used to having more social interactions back in Nigeria.

Aside from these findings, my research found that the economic struggle of getting their first job and the challenges they faced impacted the social well-being of the family. Because their pay was so low, several of the respondents had to put in more time at work in the initial occupations that demanded long hours. It implies that they are unable to spend time with their family, which is a major problem. For couples, the burden of having to work longer hours while also adjusting to a new culture and way of life may be overwhelming. Even more difficult is for single-parent families, who must juggle their work and family responsibilities while adjusting to life in a new nation. Other studies have shown that people who are forced to work long hours are less satisfied at work and have less time to socialise because of work-related pressures, a result that is corroborated by this study (Sweetman and Picot, 2011; Maheux and Grant, 2007). It was clear that their financial situation was a major concern, even though they didn't have enough time to spend with their children. This meant that they had to focus on their occupations, but they were well-organized so that they could still spend time

with their families. They always made sure that one of them or someone else was in charge of temporarily taking responsibility while both partners were working, like in the case of Stephen and Hyman. It's also clear that many parents had to accept occupations that were much below their skill level or give up their aspirations altogether in order to provide for their family, especially when they newly arrived in Canada. For the sake of her children, Amanda, for example, gave up her plans to go to college because she wanted to ensure her children pursued their higher education. Several parents took lower-paying professions. It's clear some spouses are willing to go to great lengths for their families, especially when children are involved.

A good number of them said they were already going back to school to deal with issues at work: Nneka, and Stephen; Amanda, Raphael, and Remigus planned to enrol later due to family responsibilities. In their view, obtaining a higher degree in Canada will help them get a good career. This conclusion is in line with Gilmore and Le Petit's, (2008) findings that migrants that completed their higher education in Canada instead of overseas had a greater rate of labour market engagement. All the participants had strong hopes for their futures, citing a broad variety of "pull" incentives that outweighed the "push" factors that compelled them to leave Nigeria. For example, as discussed earlier, poverty, insecurity, underemployment, and unemployment have been chronically high in Nigeria. There are key "push" causes of rising emigration in Africa and other emerging nations, according to (Konadu-Agyemang and Takyi 2006) and (Togunde and Yewah, 2010). These causes include poor wages, unemployment and joblessness, political instabilities, famines, catastrophes, and high levels of insecurity. According to the authors, this has led to the lowest living standards in the affected countries like Nigeria.

For nations with high incomes like Canada, job availability, higher wages, high GDP, professional advancement, and improved education are the reasons for its choice. The participants in this survey were certain that they would be better off living in Canada than Nigeria because of these factors. Even though not everyone who took part in the survey ranked Canada as their first option, it is still a popular choice for many Nigerians looking to immigrate because of the good economic prospects it provides.

5. RECOMMENDATION, SUGGESTION FOR FURTHER STUDIES AND THE CONCLUSION

The study's major goal is to learn more about the perception and socio-economic intent of young migrants from Nigeria to Canada. Nevertheless, moving is not a simple task. A new life comes with a lot of challenges, many of which are difficult to quantify. In order to narrow the scope of my research, I chose to focus on Calgary, which has a very large and quickly growing immigrant population.

Qualitative research was utilised to chronicle the experiences of 10 Nigerian migrants in more detail. Economic realities in Nigeria; post-migration well-being; and ambitions for the future were three themes that arose from the interviews. Most migrants to Canada said that their major motivation for moving wasn't economic, rather other factors such as a better quality of life for their children, connections to family members already living in the country, political stability, security, infrastructural facilities, and a good standard of living are the major role. Most of the participants had to settle for basic occupations when they came to Canada. As for wages and work schedules, many responded that they were content with their current positions. Some are still unhappy with the fact that their international qualifications were not recognised, and almost half of them have returned to school. Even though they faced obstacles, many participants remained positive. They were optimistic that Canada has much in store for their family.

5.1. Recommendation

First, families considering immigration to Canada must be aware that there are potential challenges they may face, including a lack of affordable childcare options and altered family dynamics. Free or discounted prenatal daycare is an essential need in Canada and in Calgary. This will help newly arriving couples with kids find a balance among job and parenting duties. Parents who don't have close relatives or friends who can assist out sometimes have to work two or more jobs while still juggling the needs of their children. Given that women are more likely than males to forego education in order to care for children, this change will have a beneficial effect on women's labour market participation and general well-being. demonstrates that all moms with at least one preschool-aged kid are more likely to be working because of a publicly financed daycare approach.

In addition, newcomers to Canada shouldn't have unrealistic expectations about obtaining job in their industry. While many may get "points" for things like education and work experience, nearly none will really be able to find employment in their field. If they knew this going in, maybe they wouldn't feel so down about being overqualified for their job. The government of Canada must notify all potential immigrants of these labor market issues. More than 60% of all Canadian immigrants are here for economic reasons, thus Canada's policy for admitting specialists should include a qualification assessment before they ever set foot in the country. This would let many migrants wait for their talents to be evaluated with less anxiety and without spending their life savings. It could additionally give potential immigrants the knowledge they need to decide whether or not to migrate to Canada. Australia is currently practicing this on a broad scale with its immigrant population (Australian Government, 2018), and the practice

looks to be successful. This manner, immigrants would receive much complete knowledge regarding their professional potential and less anxiety concerning finding job when they arrive.

In order to help immigrants get jobs and get them quickly prior to being examined abroad, this research suggests that regulating organizations speed up the process by which they recognize foreign credentials. Based on my findings, it took a long time for Nigerian immigrants to find work when they arrived in the United States. Their initial employment, meanwhile, had little to do with their majors. More funding from the Canadian government as well as other interested parties is needed for settlement agencies to improve post-arrival employment programs for immigrants. As a result, settlement organizations would be more likely to invest in initiatives that assist recent immigrants find jobs. In addition, governments could push for certification evaluations by professional groups to be conducted in an open and fair manner. The regulating organizations have not yet introduced fair credential evaluations, but there has been very little government control to ensure this. If the government doesn't step in, professional organizations in Canada will keep rejecting foreign credentials, leaving immigrants with little options for staying in their fields. My research reveals that this causes strain on family connections and economic instability.

More crucial, though, is reiterating the notion that migration, especially when motivated by economics, is primarily an act of family. Individuals and their difficulties in assimilating are the primary focus of far too many settlement programs. When family members are unable to get employment or employment that adequately compensates for their skills and expertise, they often are forced to relocate in search of better opportunities for themselves and their children. If service providers saw the family as the unit that was seeking help, they might better tailor their program to meet their needs. Individualized initiatives to aid in the employment of immigrants are still necessary, and so is assistance for their families. Communities more receptive to effective integration might be fostered by recognizing that migration is not just economic or motivated by an individual's circumstances. Although some settlements agencies do provide services for whole households, most of those funds are allocated to people working on their own.

5.2. Suggestion for Further Study

The present research offers a platform from which more study may be done to get a deeper grasp of the subject at hand. The following ideas for more research are offered in light of the study's results; however, they should be confirmed by larger studies since the study's sample size was small and restricted to one location. To determine if the results agree or disagree with the present findings and those in the literature, researchers will look at immigrants from other countries and the motivations for their migration to Canada.

Second, it establishes a strong foundation for future research that will concentrate on employing qualitative study methodologies to analyse the situation of newly immigrated individuals to Canada instead of just depending on quantitative ways to explore economic blending. The necessity for future comparison research on migrants and Canadian citizens must also be noted in order to ascertain if there are any disparities

within the framework of the social and economic aspects that are presently being researched.

Due to a lack of funding and a timing crunch, the research's third flaw was the sample size of just 10 immigrants in Calgary. Future studies should expand the sample size to better represent the immigrant population. I found it challenging to interview couples. It will be necessary to hear from two "breadwinners" from each family (if possible). Both spouses should be interviewed in order to have a complete understanding of how families are impacted should a member of the family encounter problems integrating economically. My study has shown that, despite what may appear to be the major reason for immigration to Canada, economic factors are not the sole nor the most significant ones. If we don't change our focus, we'll keep ignoring what really matters for immigrants' successful economic and social assimilation, and to do that both qualitative and quantitative research has to be applied before a varied conclusion can be made.

Last but not least, the study offers future academics a chance to critically examine all the other variables that affect immigration and emigration, as well as how policy makers are trying to address any potential underlying issues affecting household migration across the globe.

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APPENDIX 1

ATTACHMENT I Topical interview agenda

1. When did you first arrive in Canada?
2. Was Canada the first country you considered? What are your reasons for or against it?
3. What were your pre-migration impressions of Canada's economic prospects?
4. How did you come to Canada? 4a. Were you compelled to relocate for economic reasons? 4b). Were these considerations motivated by the job or income of a specific member of your family?
5. Can you tell me a little about your professional background? Both before and upon arrival.
6. Kindly describe your first work in Canada. Which one was it? How much time did it take you to get it? Were you content with your working conditions?
7. Are you pleased or content with your present job, and if so, why?
8. Are you pessimistic or hopeful about Canada's economic future? Why?
9. Would you consider returning to work in your nation of origin if given the opportunity? If you answered "yes," where and in what profession would you want to work? If "No," could you perhaps explain why?
10. Do you believe that relocating to Canada was beneficial to you? For you and your family?
11. How do you strike a good balance between work and family life? Do you and your partner spend enough time together? How about your family? What about your children? (As appropriate)
12. Has your relationship with your... spouse, mother/father, or siblings altered as a consequence of your time in Canada? If that is the case, how has it changed?

ATTACHMENT II

The answers to these demographic questions will help me analyse your economic status.

Keep in mind that all data will be treated completely confidentially.

1. What is your birth date? ...
2. Are you married?.....
3. What is your birth country? ...
4. What is your most significant academic level and field of study?
5. Where did you go to school?...
6. How would you describe your present job situation? For instance, employed, self-employed, or looking for work, employment, students, and so forth.
7. What was your previous job before moving?...

Please disregard questions 8 and 9 if you are not already employed.

8. What is your present line of work?
9. How long have you worked in that field?
10. Which members of your family accompanied you to Canada? (All at the same time? Anyone born here or who has become a member of your family later?.....