

**Navigating Noise: Health Challenges Faced by Itinerant Workers in the
Bustling Urban Landscape of Lagos, Nigeria.**

Research Proposal

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Introduction

Lagos, Nigeria, is one of the fastest-developing cities in Nigeria in terms of urbanisation and industrialization (Adedini, 2023). The purpose of this study is to look at itinerant workers and explore the impact being created by noise on their health, considering the bustling metropolis. The rationale for conducting this research comes from the World Health Organisation (2020), according to which prolonged exposure levels could lead to adverse health effects, among which the common ones include elevated stress levels, sleep disturbances, and cardiovascular issues. It is critical research, as the Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency, or LASEPA (2019), recently informed us about the higher noise level in the city as compared to the previous decade. This surge is quite obvious given the increasing usage of transportation and expanding industries within the city area. Agbiboa (2022) agrees with this aspect and compels paying attention to the needs of itinerant workers in Lagos by putting an emphasis on their health-related impacts as a result of elevated noise levels. This community of itinerant workers in Lagos is already quite vulnerable because of their work nature, and their health condition might be affected further due to the elevated noise levels in the city.

Aim:

To assess the impact of environmental noise on the health and well-being of itinerant workers in Lagos, Nigeria.

Objectives:

- To quantify and analyse the levels of environmental noise at various locations frequented by itinerant workers in Lagos.
- To explore the subjective experiences and perceptions of itinerant workers regarding environmental noise and its impact on their health.
- To identify potential mitigating factors or coping mechanisms employed by itinerant workers in response to environmental noise exposure.

Literature Review

According to Afolabi (2021), noise pollution in urban areas tends to create a wide range of health drawbacks for individuals, raising the need for specific interventions for the targeted community. It is possible to understand this aspect by using the social-ecological model presented by Bronfenbrenner (1979), which argues that individual characteristics, environment, and community tend to have a considerable impact on individuals' health. This framework shall involve the consideration of noise pollution impacting the wellbeing of itinerant workers in Lagos. A study conducted by Adebisi et al. (2020) highlights the need to conduct research over health hazards in Nigeria by putting a major focus on vulnerable communities. This study extends the same research by highlighting the complexities created as a result of noise pollution for itinerant workers in Lagos.

Research Methodology

This research study will be completed using a mixed-methods research approach. The research involves quantitative data, such as sound levels, in different locations within the city, where the qualitative data shall be captured by conducting in-depth interviews with itinerant workers in Lagos to understand their experience (Saunders et al., 2019). Purposive sampling shall be used here to collect responses from the participants or itinerant workers from different locations to ensure holistic findings. All the ethical aspects, such as anonymity, informed consent, and others, shall be adhered to in the research (Kruger and Mitchell, 2019). The data analysis shall be carried out using thematic analysis techniques, followed by a critical discussion with the inclusion of statistics to meet the targeted objectives.

References

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