Assessment of residential satisfaction in the core

area of Ibadan Metropolis, Nigeria

Bukola A. Adewale, Eziyi O. Ibem, Bayo Amole & Albert B. Adeboye

ABSTRACT

Traditional core areas of urban centers in the developing countries

are known for poor housing quality and deteriorating neighborhood

environment. However, there is a paucity of empirical studies

on the extent to which residents of such areas are satisfied with

their housing situations. This study investigated residential satisfaction

amongst residents in the traditional core area of Ibadan,

southwest Nigeria. The study relied on a questionnaire survey of

856 residents conducted in 2013 in the study area to achieve this

goal. Results of the descriptive statistics, factor, and categorical

regression analyses reveal that the residents were generally satisfied

with their housing situations. They were most satisfied with

relationships with their neighbors but least satisfied with the sizes

of open spaces within their neighborhoods. Satisfaction with housing

units’ attributes and social characteristics of the neighborhood;

layout and cleanliness and the provision of utilities and recreational

facilities in the neighborhood emerged as the top three

predictors of residential satisfaction amongst the residents. The

study concludes that instead of contemplating on total clearance

and eviction of residents as measures for improving the livability

of traditional core areas of urban centers, governments in developing

countries need to engage in innovative strategies that will

improve the quality of the physical environment and social networks

in these communities.

KEYWORDS

Residential satisfaction; core areas; urban centres; household survey; Ibadan