

**THE EFFECTS OF SOME SELECTED LEGISLATIONS ON GOOD
GOVERNANCE IN NIGERIA: A STUDY OF 8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY,
2015 - 2019**

By

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DECLARATION

I, **Okorie Ganiat Adogeri** humbly declare that this work was carried out by me and submitted to institute for legislative and democratic studies (NILDS) in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of masters in legislative studies, and all materials used from other sources have been duly referenced.

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CERTIFICATION

This dissertation by **Okorie Ganiat Adogeri (PG/NLS/1900099)** has been carefully read and approved as having satisfied one of the necessary prerequisites for the Award of Masters in legislative studies from Institute from Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS)

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DEDICATION

This study is dedicated to God Almighty, for his protection and making sure that am able to complete my program irrespective of various challenges. To my beloved family, husband, children and to every individual that assisted me one way or the other. To my late parent (Late Chief B.U Adogeri and Late Allaja Awawu Adogeri) for creating the foundation for education persiut. And to our legislators whom are seriously contributing their best in making laws that will bring about good governance in Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

This study examined the effects of some selected legislations on good governance in Nigeria focusing on the 8th National Assembly. However despite numerous laws passed since the commencement of the 8th Assembly, Nigeria is yet to experience tremendous improvement in governance. The laws made have not had positive impact on the lives of Nigerian. For instance the Chandler Good Governance Index 2021 report ranked Nigeria 102 out of the 104th nation under review. Hence the need to examine the effect of some selected legislation with regard to good governance using the 8th assembly as a case study. The study examined the effects of some selected Acts of the National Assembly on good governance and identified the perception of the citizens on policies needed to compliment legislations to ensure good governance in Nigeria.

In order to achieve these objectives, the study adopted the mixed research design relying on primary and secondary data. The primary data were collected through the use of structured questionnaires while the secondary data were taken from published material like gazettes of the National Assembly, journal articles, and the internet. Data were subjected to Descriptive Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS). However, data were presented in tables following the thematic order.

Based on first specific objective, the majority of Nigerians agreed that some of the bills passed by the 8th National Assembly reflected the views of Nigerians on achieving good governance in Nigeria but lack of functional mechanism to ensure successful implementation and lack of foresight to unforeseen challenges, limited the success of the bills passed. Based on the second specific objective, the finding reveals that other policies based on citizen perception that needed to be put in place beside legislation to enhance good governance are policies on poverty reduction, security, justice, amongst others. The study recommended that lawmakers should be proactive in helping to promote policies on security issues, poverty reduction, security, justice amongst others.

The study recommended that lawmakers should come up with other legislation that will help checkmate and correct implementation challenges on the side of erring agencies beside oversight function be proactive in making provision in legislations that will help manage negative feedback when these legislations fails to achieve intended objectives. They should also help promote policies , issues on security, poverty reduction, security, justices amongst others.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

Over the years, legislative assessment has remained the most topical issue in democratic discourse. This trajectory is mainly attributed to the centrality of the legislature to democratic governance as studies have established that democracy cannot exist without the people's assembly otherwise referred to as the legislature (Fish, 2006; Alli, 2014; Bello-Imam, 2004; Volden & Wiseman, 2013; Barkan, 2010; Aiyede, 2006). However, the behaviours of the legislators in and out of the legislature have subjected the institution to public condemnation, (Punch 2015). Since 1999, the question of the effectiveness of the National Assembly has been generating concerns among political analysts, scholars and other stakeholders. This is attributed majorly to the excessive and needless confrontations with the executive on one hand, and the immoral behaviours of some legislators on the other hand. The National Assembly has never ceased to make headlines. At some points, it enmeshed itself in internal controversial issues and at other times it engaged in confrontational battles with other arms of government (mostly the executive). Most of these issues ended up soiling its public image as people saw the legislators fighting or struggling for self-interests.

As a result of this, people hardly celebrate any good deeds from the National Assembly but are quick to knock the legislators when their conduct seems inimical to democratic survival or developmental aspirations of the people. This makes many people to see the institution as a parasite draining the country's resources especially in the wake of the calls for the reduction of the institution's running cost. In some quarters, some people even opined that the existence of the legislature is the major cause of the developmental quagmire the country is facing and subsequently call for its scrapping (Fatade, 2015). Some also call for the reform of the institution

to pave way for part time legislature in order to reduce the scandalous salaries and allowances being gulped by the lawmakers (Ndibe, 2015; Vanguard, August 16, 2016)

One major reason that characterizes the slow pace of development in Africa is lack of good governance. As a result of the above assertion, the United Nation Development Program in 2002, their human development report stated that "effective governance is central to human development is the missing link to economic growth in Africa". The consequences of bad governance in Africa are alarming. The worldwide governance indicators WGI placed the vast majority of African countries in the bottom 50th percentile of their six dimension of governance, meaning that Africa perform worse than any other region exempt the former soviet union. Nigeria is not left out in this plague of bad governance. For instance the chandler good governance index 2021 report, Nigeria was rated 102nd out of the 104th nation under reviewed, the Ibrahim Index Africa Governance (IIAG) report 2010-2019. Nigeria was also rated 34th out of the 54th nation study below Zimbabwe that was ranked 33rd position. The alarming view of this report is that Nigeria categorizes with the red mark, indicating increased deterioration.

According to UNDP - good governance is among other things participatory, transparent and accountable. It is effective and equitable. It promotes rule of law, good governance ensures that political, social, and economic priorities are based on broad consensus in the society and that the voices of the poorest and most vulnerable are heard in the decision- making process. The Mo Ibrahim foundation defines governance as the provisions of political, social, economic, environmental public goods and services that every citizen have right to expect from their government and that a government has the responsibility to deliver to its citizens. Good governance is the availability of all of the above as stated sin MO Ibrahim foundation.

There are three organs of government in every democratic setting. The legislature is the first. The legislature is that branch of government that is responsible for translating the will of the citizen into law. The legislature is very important in every democratic system of Government.

No legislature, no democracy. Fish (2006) argued that the effectiveness of the legislative system determines the status of democracy. In a presidential structure like Nigeria where democratic system of Government is in place, there are fundamental principles that promote good governance.

Legislative performance assessment has been adjudged in line with government actualization of its good decisions and promises to citizens in Nigeria. Previous studies are tailored towards bill initiation and sponsoring, resource Competence and, parliamentary performance, development of various benchmark and toolkits. According to the 1999 Constitution section 4(2) of the federal republic of Nigeria as amended, the Nigeria legislature is empowered to make laws for peace and good governance. It is against this backdrop that this research term to examine the 8th assembly legislative performance and how it enhanced good governance in Nigeria.

1.2 The Statement of the Problem

The legislature of any country is the binding force that helps transform politics and good governance of the country into a situation that highly addresses the yearning of her citizens. Section 4, sub-section 2 of the Nigeria constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as amended states that "the national assembly shall make laws, for peace, order and good governance of the federation, or any part thereof with respect to any matter included in the exclusive list" the constitution empowered the National Assembly to make law for the peace, order and good governance in Nigeria. Since inception of democracy in 1999 numerous laws have been made that were attempted to help enhance good governance. However the Chandler good governance 2021 index report reveals that Nigeria is currently being rated 102 out of 104 that was surveyed. This index contains seven pillars of Chandler Good Governance as presented in Table 2.1

| S/N | Seven Pillars of Chandler Good Governance | Nigeria Rank | Out of |
|-----|---|--------------|--------|
| 1 | Leadership and Foresight | 98 | 104 |
| 2 | Robust Laws and Policies, | 85 | 104 |
| 3 | Strong Institutions, | 101 | 104 |
| 4 | Financial Stewardship | 88 | 104 |
| 5 | Attractive Market Place | 97 | 104 |
| 6 | Global Influence and Reputation | 72 | 104 |
| 7 | Helping People Rise | 98 | 104 |

Source: Chandler Good Governance 2021 index

However despite numerous bills introduced and passed into law since the commencement of the 8th senate, Nigeria is yet to experience tremendous improvement in governance. The laws made have not had positive impact on the lives of Nigerian and democratic institutions. For instance the chandler good governance index 2021 report ranked Nigeria 102 out of the 104th nation under review. Every nation deserves good governance-good leadership with foresight, robust laws and policies, strong institutions, financial stead warship, efficient security systems that will help secure the lives and properties of citizens amongst others. Hence the need to examine legislative performance and good governance in Nigeria Using the 8th assembly as a case study.

1.3 Research Questions

- i. What were the bills passed and the bills signed into law in the 8th National Assembly in promoting good governance in Nigeria?
- ii. What are the effects of some of the selected Acts of National Assembly in ensuring good governance in Nigeria?

iii. What are the perceptions of the citizens on policies needed to compliment legislation to ensure good governance in Nigeria?

1.4 Research Objectives

The objectives of this study is segmented into general and specific objectives.

The general objective is to examine the effects of legislations on good governance in Nigeria.

The specific objectives are:

- i. To identify the bills passed and signed into law in the 8th National Assembly in promoting good governance in Nigeria
- ii. To examine the effects of some selected Acts of the National Assembly on good governance.
- iii. To identify the perception of the citizens on policies needed to compliment legislations to ensure good governance in Nigeria.

1.5 Scope and limitation of the study

The study covers legislation and good governance with emphasis on the 8th assembly, however the study has some limitations which include:

1. Availability of research materials: The Research material available to the researcher is insufficient.
2. Time: The time frame allocated to the study does not enhance wider coverage as the researcher combine academic activities with other official assignment.
3. Finance: Finance is a major constraint to the scope of the research as available fund does not permit further expansion of the scope of study and in handling some miscellaneous that will enable the researcher speed up the study

The Assembly covers 2015 to 2019. The comprehensive understanding and evaluation of the study is also limited by factors such as, the secretive and bureaucratic nature of the National

assembly and most of the legislators are not accessible to access vital information which would have aid the researcher's work. Respondent's attitude to questionnaires and challenge in time management factors in accessing targets population survey.

1.6 Significance of Study

This study intends to fill the gap in knowledge and make original contributions to existing literature regarding legislative performance with reference to legislation and internal mechanism in law making process in the Nigeria National Assembly. This study will also contribute in resolving fundamental questions such as; How can legislative performance in terms of law-making help to improve good governance in Nigeria, has the bills introduced in the 8th National Assembly addresses the issues of good governance in Nigeria;to what extent has the body of laws passed in the 8th National Assembly satisfy the constitutional provisions that promotes good governance in Nigeria. This study will also contribute knowledge to the law makers, the executive arm of government, civil society who will want to propose legislative reforms where necessary in ensuring good governance in Nigeria.

1.7 Definition of Terms

National Assembly: The National Assembly is the two legislative houses at the federal level with members drawn from all states of the federation. The members of the House of Representatives' are drawn from all federal constituencies based on the principle of population, while the members of the Senate are drawn from all states based on the principle of 'equality of states

Legislation: The Constitution power for law-making. Section 4 of the CFRN 1999 (as amended) provides that legislative powers of the Federal Republic of Nigeria shall be vested in the National Assembly, which consists of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The National Assembly is empowered to legislate for the peace, order and good governance of the federation

or any part of it with respect to any matter on the exclusive legislative list. The National Assembly also has power to make laws over matters on the concurrent list reserved.

1.8 Organization of the study

The study will be organized into five chapters, chapter one deals with introduction of the study that covers the background of the study, research problems, objectives of the study, the scope of the study, significance of the study organization of the study. Chapter two consist of the conceptual review, empirical review of literature and theoretical framework, chapter three contains the methodology which deals with the research design, population sampling, research sources of data, etc., chapter four deals with data analysis and interpretation while chapter five gives a summary consist of summary, conclusion and recommendation of the research work.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Introduction

This chapter deals with conceptual review, Legislature in Nigeria, review of related literature on the study, empirical review and the last section adopts a theoretical framework that explains the interaction between the variables.

2.1 Conceptual Review

2.1.1 Legislature in Nigeria

Legislature is referred as parliament in Britain, national assembly in Nigeria, Congress in United States (Abonyi, 2006). The legislature occupies a key position in the process of government, with the purpose of articulating the collective will of the people through representative government (Okoosi-Simbine, 2010). Awotokun (1998) states that legislature is an arm of government made up of elected representatives or constituted assembly people whose duty is to make laws, control the activities of the executive and safeguard people's interest. Anyaegbunam (2000) defined legislature as the role of making, revising, amending and repealing laws for the wellbeing of its citizenry it represents. Lafenwa (2009) defines legislature as people chosen by election to represent the constituent units and control government. Okoosi-Simbine (2010) asserts that legislature is law-making, and policy influencing body in the democratic political system. The law makers can be described in the site of sovereignty, the expression on the will of the people. This is derived from the people and should be exercise according to the will of the people they represent.

Bogdanor (1991) affirms that legislature is derived from a claim that its members are representative of the political community, and decisions are collectively made according to complex procedures. The state of the legislature has been identified as the strongest predictors on the survival of every democratic development (Okoosi-Simbine, 2010). The centrality of the

legislature is captured by Awotokun (1998) when he asserts that legislature is the pivot of modern democratic systems. Edosa&Azelama (1995) states that legislatures vary in design, structure, organisation, operational procedures, and selection process as well as sizes, tenure of office and nature of meetings.

In a bicameral type of arrangement two legislative chambers exist in a country; one chamber seems to dominate the other. Nwabueze and Mueller (1985) noted that when they viewed that there exist some forms of dominance of one chamber to the other in some legislation, term of office, size of the constituencies represented. However, they intricate rules adopted usually harmonize the legislative function of the two chambers (upper and lower chamber). Edosa and Azelama (1995) assert that bicameral legislative is common in federal states that stem from the imperative of one house to protect the interests of minority groups in such states. Nigeria operates in a federally bicameral arrangement on the dictates of 1954 Lyttleton Constitution. The House of Senate (Upper House) and House of Representatives (Lower House) jointly called National Assembly of Nigeria. The two chambers act as a check on other arms of government; such checks are minimal because the major policy demand debate is on party affiliations rather than national interest (Edosa&Azelama, 1995). This arrangement enhance passage of law and gives opportunity for division of labour between the two houses (Okoosi-Simbine, 2010). In addition, bicameral legislature provides an opportunity for wider representation of various interests groups in a country from one democracy to the other. Nwabuzor and Muller (1985) notes that such factors like presiding officer, order of business, legislative process, legislative committee, intra-party discipline manner of debate consideration account differently among countries. Nwabuzor and Muller (1985) assert that countries that operate short-term tenure for legislature do so because the representatives reflect on the betterment of public preference in respect of government policy.

2.1.2 Functions of the Legislature

Legislation functions are the primary and the most crucial role of the legislature (Edosa&Azelama, 1995). Laski (1992), states that the responsibility for passing laws and lay down the general rules to enhance good governance for state. These laws may originate as private members bills, or they may originate from the executive branch (Benjamin, 2010). Awotokun (1998), opine that laws made by the legislature must be in the interest of the general populace with the expectation of modifying peoples“ behaviour and response towards a given situation, be of good quality and self-sustaining. Abonyi (2006) assert that bills is examined and passed through various stages, and in the process this could be altered by addition or deletion. However, the inputs of the legislature is the attitude of the executive and other factors such as concessions to the opposition and other groups against some aspects of proposed laws greatly reduced the legislative powers to a mere deliberative assembly. Heywood (2007) stated that the twentieth century witnesses a progressive weakening of legislation power in the form of a decline of legislatures. This situation had reduced many legislative assemblies to mere “talking shops” that do little more than rubber-stamp decisions that have effectively been made elsewhere.

Oversight: The oversight function is a major component of the activities of modern legislature irrespective of the form of government in practice. NDI (2000), states that the function of oversight is to wield enormous powers in governance by executive arms. Saliu and Muhammad (2010) indicate that legislative body takes active role in understanding and monitoring the performance of the executive arm and its agencies. It is described as surveillance on the activities of the executive arm. The legislature oversees government affairs and holds the person responsible for any actions and omissions (Fashagba, 2009). Adebayo (1986) reveals that legislative oversight cross-check the executive by examining the activities of some chief executive, ministries, department and agencies of government. The commonwealth

parliamentary association (2002) assert that the principle behind the legislative oversight ensure that public policy is administered in accordance with the legislative intent. The legislative function does not end only on the passage of bills but to follow the activity linked to lawmaking. It is the responsibility of the legislature to ensure that such laws are being implemented effectively. The representative looks diligently in all the affairs of government, the eyes and voice to the will of its constituents (Simmons, 2002). The oversight function of the legislature exists as a corollary to the law-making process for instance the legislature controls the executive in financial behaviour and appointments of key officials such as ambassadors, ministers/commissioners amongst others. Lafenwa and Gberevbie (2007) assert that effective legislature in governance enhances transparency, accountability, efficiency and fidelity in government.

Representation: representation is the central role of the legislature; the complexity of modern administration has made it impossible for the people to run the affairs of the state as it was in the early Greek City-States (Awotokun, 1998). Legislative institution is a mechanism in which the population, special interests and diverse territory are represented and guaranteed at the scheme of things. Edosa and Azelama (1995) argued that representative function provides a platform where citizens and different group is opportune to have a say in governance. This gives different groups in a society or groups the opportunity to articulate and advance their interests and concerns. Roberts (2002) states that representation play dual roles. First, they represent their people to government, and second, they represent government in their constituency. Saliu and Muhammad (2010), states that the fulcrum of a legislature articulate and aggregate diverse interests of the represented constituencies into the policy process. The functions of representation enhances the legitimacy of public policy, reduces alienation and reduce estrangement between government and the governed to enhance stability in the system (Edosa&Azelama, 1995).

Financial Function: involves an authorization of expenditure for government. Sanyal (2009) states that all government expenditure needs to be scrutinised and sanctioned by the legislature, this can be done at annual budget process. Lafenwa and Gberevbie (2007) assert legislative function as a catalyst for sustainable democratic governance. The legislature involves in the control of public expenditure and taxation and fund management to better the life of the entire citizens.

Committee Function: Heywood (2007) sees committee functions as the power houses of the legislature; they examine legislative measures in detail. The committees oversee bills and financial demands of the government, and issues relating to ministries and financial function of the government as it concerns auditing (Edigheji, 2006). The legislative committees' functions carry out the investigative power of the legislature. The standing committees of the legislature are divided and utilized for exigency purpose, this is appointed in response to a particular development on ad hoc situation (Fashagba, 2010). The legislature is the people's branch with the purpose of expressing the will of the people. The instruments and opportunities of the chief executive is responsible for managing the machinery of government, inter-state diplomacy, budget development and this veto power makes the chief executive an advantage over the legislature and hence continues to exert the executive dominance (Rosenthal et.al., 2003). Burnell (2003) states that legislature experience secular decline, unable to arrest the accumulation of executive power driven by global financial, economic and political forces. Ray(2004) asserts that legislatures have declined in respect of powers in relation to the executive power of governments. Adebo (1988) revealed that the legislators in Nigeria's 2nd republic spent part of their tenure on the issues of accommodation, comfort and salaries for members and threatened to boycott sittings indefinitely if their demand for luxury were not met by the government (Fashaga, 2010). Burnell (2003) states that legislature experience secular decline, unable to arrest the accumulation of executive power driven by global financial, economic and

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2.1.3 Law Making

The law-making is a process during which an idea of a law is transformed into a law. Law has different forms (sources) – acts of the legislative bodies (statutes), acts of the executive bodies (they have different names – orders, instructions, or other), at last judicial precedents, legal customs. Law-making of each source of law has distinct features. For example, law-making of the legal custom differs from the law-making of the legislative acts. A legal custom is formed by the recurrence of a norm during long period of time. The state does not play the leading role in this process as it only approves the created norm.

2.1.4 Bills in law making

A bill is proposed legislation under consideration by a legislature. A Bill is a draft statute which becomes law after it is passed by both the Houses of Parliament and assented to by the President. All legislative proposals are brought before Parliament in the forms of Bills. A bill does not become law until it is passed by the legislature and, in most cases, approved by the executive. Once a bill has been enacted into law, it is called an act of the legislature, or a statute. Bills are introduced in the legislature and are discussed, debated and voted upon. There are two main categories of bills: public bills and private bills. While public bills deal with matters of national interest (*jus generale publicum*), the purpose of private bills is to grant special powers, benefits or exemptions to a person or persons, including corporations. A bill is a proposal for a new law, or a proposal to change an existing law. Therefore, a bill passes through the following stages before becoming a law. Bills may be broadly classified into Government Bills and Private Members' Bills depending upon their initiation in the House by a Minister or a Private Member. Content wise, Bills are further classified into original bills ;which embody new proposals, ideas or policies, Amending Bills; which seek to modify, amend or revise existing Acts, Consolidating Bills ;which seek to consolidate existing law/enactments on a particular subject, Expiring Laws (Continuance) Bills ;which seek to continue Acts which, otherwise, would expire on a specified date. Repealing and amending Bill; to cleanse the Statute Book, Bills can also be categorize based on its nature to give validity to certain actions; Bills to replace Ordinances, Money and Financial Bills, Constitution Amendment Bills. Bills can also be classified procedurally: Ordinary Bills, money Bills and Financial Bills, Ordinance Replacing Bills and Constitution Amendment Bills.

2.1.5 Governance

The word governance is used extensively and in many contexts, but is difficult to capture in a simple definition. In a natural resource context, governance is used to refer to the body of formal and informal policies, and the arrangements developed between relevant stakeholders, to manage and to

make decisions about a particular resource. Governance provides the framework by which groups, such as communities, define their interests, rights, responsibilities and the ways in which they will interact with each other and with institutions of authority to manage a particular resource (Odalonu, 2020).

According to Gill (2009) Governance is define as the "dynamic interaction between people, structures, processes and traditions that support the exercise of legitimate authority in provision of sound leadership, direction, oversight, and control of an entity in order to ensure that its purpose is achieved, and that there is proper accounting for the conduct of its affairs, the use of its resources, and the results of its activities" Gill further identified seven generally accepted, interrelated pillars of democratic governance, and consequently "good," governance as follow: legitimacy, participation (or engagement), responsible stewardship, ethical conduct, transparency, predictability and accountability. Ogundiya (2010) sees governance as the way in which governments exercised power for the management and distribution of a country's social and economic resources. It is the process by which a state's affairs are managed effectively in the areas of public accountability, fiscal responsibility, administrative and the political responsibility, responsiveness, and transparency, all of which must show the interest of the governed and the leaders (Kola et al., 2017). Florence et al. (2015) viewed governance as the use of State resources and power in an accountable way to achieve and promote the well-being of the citizenry. It, therefore, implies that when the power and resources are not well managed for the welfare of the citizen, there is bound to be a problem. Odo (2015) argued that the scope of governance is wide as it includes all the day-to-day activities of the government, such as the exercise of authority on the economic, political and administrative levels in the nation. According to Odo, institutional and structural arrangement, decision-making processes, policy formulation and implementation capacity, development of personnel, information flow and the nature and style of leadership within a political system are part of the governance. According to Gould (1972) cited in Odalonu, 2020; Akindele et al (2012); Momodu and Matudi (2013) governance

refers to the act of exercising control over others, inducing others to behave in specific ways as required by Governance strictly refers to the administration of a state. Momodu and Matudi, (2013) in their view sees governance as the ultimate objective of state to efficiently and equitably deliver public good to the citizens of a state and this is what is referred to as good governance (Momodu and Matudi, 2013).

2.1.6 Good Governance

Good governance is characterized by participation, rule of law, transparency, responsiveness, equity, inclusiveness, effectiveness, efficiency and accountability. According to Doornbos (2001:94) state that good governance is used to invite judgment about how the country concerned was being governed: it enabled the raising of evaluative question about proper procedures, transparency, quality and process of decision making, and other such matters. In fact, it differentiates the actual self-understanding of the ruling groups from their real causal contribution to the prosperity or misery of their subjects (Chabal & Simbine, 2000). Actually, for Eyinla (2000:22), good governance means accountability, security of human rights and civil liberties, devolution of powers and respect for local autonomy, which all constitute a challenge to democratic regimes. Moreover, good governance has been linked to 'the extent which a government is perceived and accepted as legitimate, committed to improving the public welfare and responsive to the needs of its citizens, competent to assure law and order and deliver public services, able to create an enabling policy environment for productive activities; and equitable in its conduct' (Landell-Mill and Seragelden, 2000:17). The World Bank defines governance as a means where power is exercised in the management of country's economic and social resources for development and good governance for sound development management (Potter, 2000). It encompasses a broad sphere of public sector management; accountability and legal framework for reforms; information and technology; legitimacy of government; competence of governments to formulate appropriate policies, make timely decisions; implement them effectively and deliver services (Potter 2000:379). Good governance is pivot to a successful democratization

and development. The basic tenets of good governance must be well institutionalized and internalized, in the management of resources; the goal of development is assured. Davis (2003:1) assert that an exercise for the management of national socio-economic development in an environment devoid of rancor, ill will, strife, struggle and disdain. It is a sine qua non to achieve oriented goal with an overriding need to frontier the welfare of government to the governed. Good governance in Nigeria entails stability as the propensity for political and economic plurality to enhance electorates' choice.

2.1.7 Challenges of Law-making in Nigeria

The foregoing analysis of the score card of the legislature in Nigeria shows that a lot needs to be done by the legislature to ensure or promote good governance in Nigeria. The law-making process is beset with a legion of challenges that need to be addressed squarely for the legislature to be truly independent of the executive and achieve the much-needed succor for Nigerians through legislation. The challenges include the following:

Lack of Established Democratic Culture

The Nigeria's fledgling democracy is at its infancy, the debilitating effect of prolonged military rule in Nigeria has produced negative consequences that continue to hunt individuals and institutions in Nigeria. The legislature is not an exception. The legislature today is truly not independent of the Executive and therefore, is often incapacitated from acting as the watchdog of executive activities (Egwu, 2005). Thus, the inordinate ambition of members and leadership of the legislative houses often sees them hob-nobbing with the executive such that valuable time for law-making is lost in the process of lobbying for juicy leadership positions and committees in the legislative houses.

Corruption and Nepotism

Corruption and nepotism have been the bane of public life in Nigeria. It is often rumored that bills hardly sail through the legislature until members have had their hands greased. The

implication of this, therefore, is that debates on such bills either at the plenary or committee levels cannot be subjected to thorough scrutiny in the best interest of Nigerians who are the objects of such bills eventually when they become laws (Ejere, 2004). It is not too gratifying that such primordial and mundane issues have roles to play in passage of bills into law.

Personal Interests and Ambition of the Legislators

It is common knowledge that a good number of members of the legislative houses at both federal and state levels pursue pure selfish interests that often inhibit them from combating the challenges of law-making. Members pursue contracts from the leadership of the houses and even from the executive such that they easily compromise when it comes to contributing meaningfully to debates on the floor of the house. At times, some members resort to absenteeism from the floor of the house and do not participate at all in the proceedings. Again, many of the legislators have ambitions to contest for leadership positions in the house or membership and chairman of juicy committees. A lot of valuable legislative time is wasted while pursuing these ambitions.

That Nigerian's democracy is at its infancy cannot be contested when one considers much more advanced democracies that have existed for hundreds of years. Non-independence of the legislature often manifests in unholy relationships between the leadership of the two arms of government aimed at helping one or the other to be perpetuated in power (Oyewo, 2007).

Interference with Legislative Oversight Functions by the Executive

The legislature is given a lot of powers in the constitution to perform oversight functions and act as the watchdog of the executive. Again, the legislature must screen and approve certain appointees of the executive. The legislature is further empowered to even remove the President, Vice President, Governor and the Deputy Governor through impeachment procedure provided for in the constitution. It is however disheartening to say that the exercise of the above function to ensure good governance for the benefit of all and sundry is often interfered with and hampered

2.2 Empirical Review

2.2.1 The Nigerian National Legislature

The 1999 Federal Republic of Nigeria Constitution vested the powers to make laws on the Legislature. The Legislature has the responsibility to enact laws both at the federal and state levels for the smooth conduct of elections in Nigeria.

According to Okoosi-Simbine (2007, 1–92), “if Nigeria is to sustain democratic rule, one of the important institutions to pay attention to at all levels of government is the legislature, the organization through which citizen opinion acquires political significance in a democratic government.” However, as important as the function of the Legislature in the realization of the democratic process of a nation, the Nigerian Legislature is yet to enhance democratic practice and hence promote good governance in the country. Instead, the Legislators in Nigeria have dissipated so much energy on securing better condition of service for their members in cash and kind to the detriment of the people who elected them into office. For instance, the cost of maintaining each Senator for four years is put at approximately NGN3 billion or USD19.35 million and each member of the Nigerian Federal House of Representatives receives NGN 128.4 million or USD828,387 million as annual salary. Their fringe benefits include: wardrobe allowance – 25 per cent of annual basic salary, recess allowance – 10 per cent; accommodation allowance – 200 per cent of basic salary; utilities allowance – 30 per cent; and domestic staff allowance – 75 per cent (Mokwugwo 2011, 55). While justifying the military takeover of political power from the democratically elected government of Alhaji Shehu Shagari on 31st December 1983, General Muhammadu Buhari in his maiden address to the nation, among others, said “...the situation could have been avoided if the legislators were alive to their responsibilities. Instead, they were preoccupied with determining their salary scales, fringe benefits and unnecessary foreign travels...” (cited in Soley 2005, 11–12). The statement of General Buhari above goes to support the argument that the Legislature as a democratic

institution in Nigeria failed in its role as facilitator of democratic governance. Furthermore, the Nigerian Legislature in carrying out their legislative duties, amended Section 285(6) and (17) of the 1999 Federal Constitution of Nigeria in 2010 without foreseeing the future consequence of that particular section. The amended portions have to do with timeframe for election petitions in the country to be disposed-off from indefinite to a maximum period of 180 days by the courts. Many people argued that election petition outcomes should be determined before people are sworn into public offices after elections, but the legislature turned it down, and supports the view that the ‘winner’ should take the oath of office while the case is handled by the judiciary for not more than 180 days (FGNC 1999).

The implication of this development is that those declared ‘winners’ by INEC, fraudulently use state funds to prosecute their cases to the detriment of their accusers and the citizens as was the case in Edo, Ekiti, Ondo and Osun States of Nigeria (Adekeye and Ogunjobi 2008; Ero 2008; Majirioghene 2008; Yusuf 2008; Kolawole 2010).

2.2.2 The Nexus between Legislation and Good Governance.

Studies have shown that there is a nexus legislation, good governance and development in a country (Igbuzor 2005, 79; Kim *et al.* 2005, 646–654; Gberevbie 2009, 165–191). According to Im (2005), “the conditions for good governance depend on the presence and consolidation of democratic characteristics.” Igbuzor (2005, 79) sees good governance as entails the respect for and protection of human rights, abiding by the rule of law and running an open and transparent government.” Emphasizing the importance of good governance for development, ZouheirM’Dhaffar posits that “good governance, efficient and effective public administration are necessary conditions to achieve sustainable development” (cited in Kim *et al.* 2005, 646–654). On his part, Kofi Annan, observes that “good governance is vital for the protection of rights of

citizens and the advancement of economic and social development” (cited in Kim *et al.* 2005, 646–654). Based on empirical evidence, sustainable development is yet to be achieved in Nigeria because of the challenges of good governance. The Federal Government of Nigeria observed recently in its transformation agenda that: Nigeria’s inability to decisively tackle most development challenges such as poverty, unemployment, security and deplorable state of infrastructure has been largely attributed to bad governance in all its ramifications. These include political governance, economic governance, corporate governance and effectiveness of institutions (Federal Government of Nigeria Transformation Agenda (FGNTA) 2011–2015, 6–25).

The foregoing clearly shows that good governance and not just governance is a key to a nation’s quest for sustainable development. And this is more likely to be achieved through a democratic system where people have the opportunity to freely participate in the election of their political leaders without hindrance.

According to Mimiko (2007, 303–316), “legislation and democracy provides a platform for good governance, and promotes systematic stability as long as there is an outlet to legitimately access power by the political contenders through the people’s vote at elections.” In this regard, Kim *et al.* (2005, 646–654) posit that “the institutionalization of participation by all people is a cornerstone of good governance.”

While some scholars believe that democracy is good because it has the ability to facilitate good governance for development, others went even further to argue that democracy is meaningless without economic and social rights (Abiola and Olaopa 2006, 25–34; Ojo 2006, 1–24). In this regard, the former Nigerian Federal Minister of Information, Professor Jerry Gana posits that:

You know the mentality of our people. If democracy does not produce clean water, if democracy does not produce good roads, transform agriculture, cultivate industrial

development, sanitize society, give us power supply, democracy will lose credibility and they may say, 'Na democracy we go chop' (cited in Ojo 2006, 1- 24).

The forgoing shows that even on the part of the people, there is a nexus between democracy, good governance and development. However, for legislation to successfully provide a platform for good governance and development, democratic institutions are put in place as mechanisms to legitimately enthrone political leaders through the conduct of elections in a democratic society. McGill (1995, 63–80), sees “institution as an instrument for action.” Styhre (2001, 1–12), argues that institutions are reflections of the socio-political values that surround them. In the same vein, Farmbry and Harper (2005, 678–686) see institutions “as action-driven entities that have a vital role in reflecting and responding to the environment in which they are situated”.

2.2.3 ACTs passed by the 8th National Assembly

A report by YIAGA-CLE (2019), revealed that a total of 2166 bills were received by the 8th National Assembly but only 515 passed. The report was the product of a study to assess the legislature as a cardinal institution of democracy with regards to its responsibilities for legislation, oversight and representation. It indicated that bills such as the North East Development Commission Bill and Not Too Young to Run Bill, among others, were among those that were passed by the 8th Assembly. It, however, noted that 53 bills declined Presidential assent and only about 80 (15.5%) received assent, adding that several Bills were still awaiting assent at the time of the study. However, the report said data on the number of bills transmitted to the president for assent were not available. Over the same period, 15 bills were withdrawn while 33 were ‘negative’- killed. In total, the efficiency percentage of the Assembly was 23.8 per cent, representing the proportion of all bills introduced that were successfully passed by the 8th National Assembly.

According to the report, the 8th Assembly fared better compared to the 7th National Assembly, which passed a total of 205 Bills out of a total of 1367 introduced. The report also

revealed a high level of increase in the number of private members bills, which accounted for 95.8 per cent of all Bills introduced during the 8th National Assembly. The House of Representatives, it said, accounted for 65 percent of this category of Bills, which it said was due to its numerical strength over the Senate. YIAGA’s report stressed that two decades of unbroken democratic governance and attendant accumulation of institutional memory may have tremendously enhanced the lawmaking capacity of legislators in terms of expertise. It, however, disclosed that some of these bills generally classified as Private Member bills, though sponsored by legislators, were actually initiated by professional associations and civil society organisations, including the Not Too Young To Run bill. “This not only shows that civil society organisations have a significant impact on law making efficiency in the 8th National Assembly but also underscores its positive disposition to participatory law making.

The 8th National assembly is one of the most proactive national assembly in the history of Nigeria. Below are the list of bills it successfully passed in National assembly.

| 2015 ACTS | 2016 ACTS |
|--|--|
| 2015 ACTS Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act, 2015 | Appropriation Act, 2016 |
| Appropriation (Amendment) Act, 2015 | Bees (Import Control and Management) Act, 2016 |
| Supplementary Appropriation Act, 2015 | Telecommunications and Postal Offences (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| Federal University of Lokoja (Establishment) Act, 2015 | Prevention of Crimes (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| Federal University of Dutsin-Ma (Establishment) Act, 2015 | University of Abuja (Amendment) Act, 2016 |

| | |
|--|---|
| Federal University of Ndufu Alike Ikwo (Establishment) Act, 2015 | Small and Medium Scale Industries Development Agency (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| Federal University of Dutse (Establishment) Act, 2015 | Advertising Practitioners (Registration, etc) (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| Federal University of OyeEkiti (Establishment) Act, 2015 | National, Judicial Institute (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| Federal University of Utoke (Establishment) Act, 2015 | Chartered Institute of Stockbrokers (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| Federal University of Kashere (Establishment) Act, 2015 | Utilities Charges Commission (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| Federal University of Lafia (Establishment) Act, 2015 | Treaty to Establish Africa Economic Community Relating to the Pan-African Parliament (Accession and Jurisdiction) (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| Chartered Institute of Certified Secretaries (Establishment) Act, 2015 | Quantity Surveyors (Registration, etc) (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| Asset Management Corporation of Nigeria (Amendment) Act, 2015 | Pensions Rights of Judges (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| National Biosafety Management (Establishment) Act, 2015 | National Film and Video Censors Board (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| Equipment Leasing Act, 2015 | Nigeria Institute of Soil Science (Establishment) Act, 2016 |
| Cybercrime (Prohibition, Prevention, etc) Act, 2015 | Oaths (Amendment) Act, 2016 |

| | |
|--|---|
| National Tobacco Control Act, 2015 | Veterinary Surgeons (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| National Electricity Management Services Agency Act, 2015 | Defence Space Administration Act, 2016 |
| Federal Capital Territory Internal Revenue Service Act, 2015 | Mortgage Institutions (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| Trafficking in Persons Prohibition (Enforcement and Administration) Act, | Agricultural and Rural Management Training (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| Standards Organization of Nigeria Act, 2015 | National Crop Varieties and Livestock Breed (Registration etc) (Amendment) |
| National Agency for the Great Green Wall (Establishment) Act, 2015 | Produce (Enforcement of Export Standards) (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| Nigerian Institute of Animal Science (Amendment) Act, 2015 | National Agricultural Land Development Authority (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| Administration of Criminal Justice Act, 2015 | Water Resources (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| Immigration Act, 2015 | The High Court of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja (Number of Judges) (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| National Sugar Development Agency Act, 2015 | Federal Capital Territory Appropriation (Amendment) Act, 2016 |
| | |
| 2017 ACTS | 2018 ACTS |
| National Lottery (Amendment) Act, 2017 | Federal Capital Territory Appropriation (Amendment) Act, 2018 |
| Appropriation Act, 2017 | Federal Capital Territory Appropriation |

| | |
|---|--|
| | (Amendment) Act, 2018 |
| Federal University of Petroleum Resource Effurum (Establishment) Act 2017 | Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit Act, 2018 |
| North-East Development Commission (Establishment) Act, 2017 | Demutualisation of the Nigerian Stock Exchange Act, 2018 |
| Secured Transactions in Mobile Assets Act, 2017 | Federal School of Medical Laboratory Technology (Science) Jos (Establishment) Act, 2018 |
| Credit Reporting Act, 2017 | Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria (Establishment) Act, 2018 |
| Nigerians in Diaspora Commission (Establishment) Act, 2017 | Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria (Establishment) Act, 2018 |
| Petroleum Training Institute (Amendment) Act, 2017 | Federal Capital Territory Civil Service Commission (Establishment) Act, 2018 |
| Chartered Institute of Local Government and Public Administration Act, 2017 | Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (Establishment) Act, 2018 Federal Capital Territory Appropriation Act, 2018 |
| Railway Loan (International Bank) Repeal Act, 2017 | Nigerian Institute of Mining and Geosciences, Jos (Establishment) Act, 2018 |
| National Senior Citizens Act, 2017 | National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (Establishment) (Amendment) Act, 2018 |
| Legislative Houses (Power and Privileges) Act, | Extradition (Amendment) Act, 2018 |

| | |
|---|--|
| 2017 | |
| Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement between the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the Kingdom of Spain (Domestication and Enforcement) Act, 2017 | National Open University (Amendment) Act, 2018 |
| Chartered Institute of Project Managers of Nigeria (Establishment) National Institute of Legislative Studies (Amendment) Act, 2017 | |
| Federal College of Dental Technology and Therapy (Establishment) Act, 2017 | |
| Federal Capital Territory Water Board (Establishment) Act, 2017 | |
| Federal Capital Territory Appropriation Act, 2017 | |
| Air Force Institute of Technology of Nigeria (Establishment) Act, 2017 | |
| Niger Delta Development Commission (Establishment, etc.) (Amendment) Act, 2017 | |
| Compulsory Treatment and Care for Victims of Gunshot Act, 2017 Anti-Torture Act, 2017 | |
| National Intelligence Agency Pensions (Establishment) Act, 2017 | |

| | |
|--|--|
| National Institute for Cancer Research and Treatment (Establishment) Act, 2017 | |
| Medical Residency Training Act, 2017 | |

Sources: Bill Office, National Assembly (2019)

2.3 Gap in Knowledge

Several studies have been conducted in the area of legislative performance toward enhancing good governance. As already known, the legislature performs the risk using one or more of its constitutional mandates of lawmaking, representation or oversight. Indeed good governance and legislation remains at the core of every nation state guaranteeing it legitimacy. In Nigeria, the motion of good governance is expressed in section 14 of the 1999 Constitution as altered. However, the loftiness of the studies in this area notwithstanding, only a few attempt to focus on explicating the effect of legislation on good governance focusing on 8th National Assembly. However, this constituting a gap in the legislative literature resulted in the quest of the present study to assess the effects of bills passed by the 8th National Assembly on good governance.

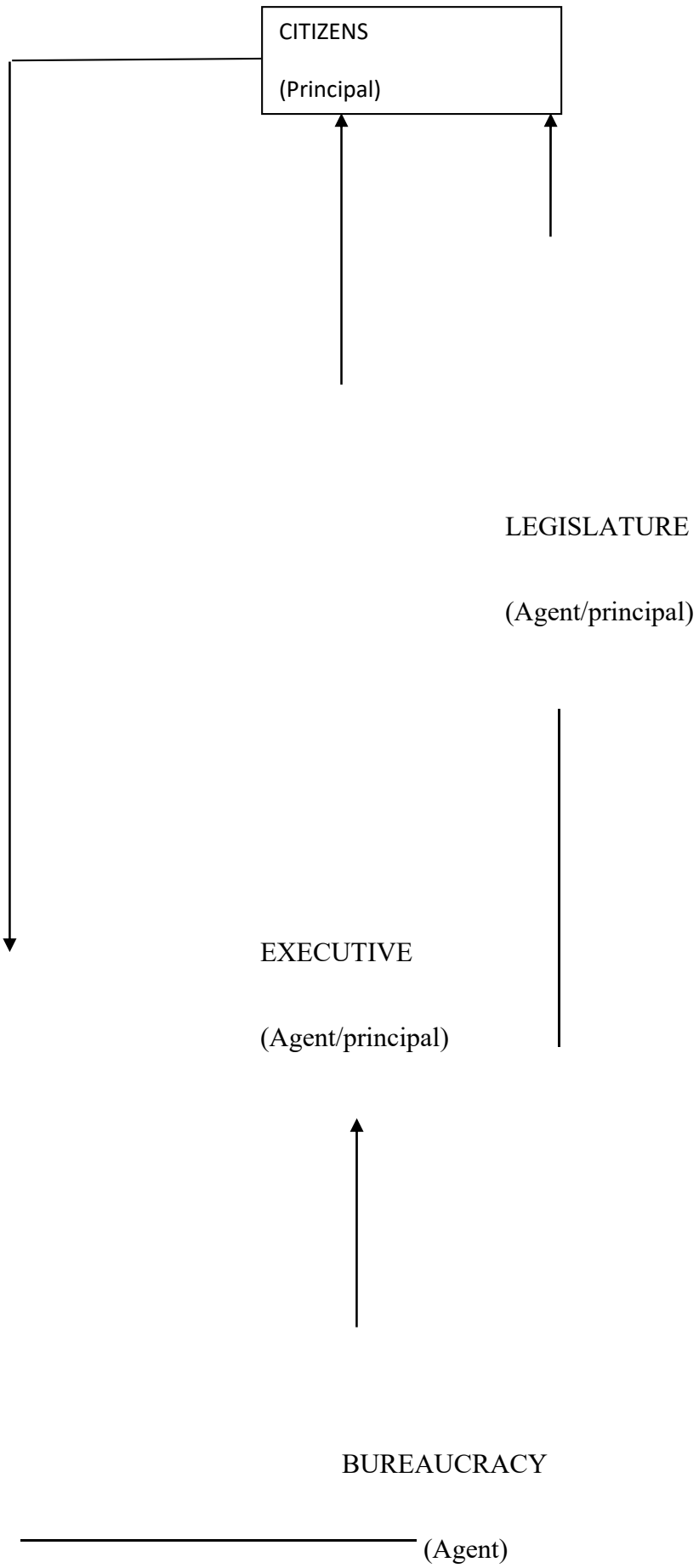
2.4 Theoretical Framework

Theoretical framework is the compass or guide for a research (Grant & Osanloo. 2014). It is a framework based on an existing theory in a field of enquiry that is related and/or reflects the hypothesis of a study. Sinclair (as cited in Adom et al., 2018) compared the role of the theoretical framework to that of a map or travel plan. Thus when embarking on a journey, the map guides your path. Therefore, I will situate this study within the confines of the **Principal – Agent theory**.

2.4.1 Principal-Agent Theory

In assessing effect of legislation on good governance in Nigeria using 8th National Assembly as a case study, the Principal-Agent Theory (Rose and Ackerman, 1978; Weingast and Moran, 1983; Moe, 1984; Fukuyama, 2004), is be utilised to explain the relationships between

the legislature and the executive arm of government which it oversees. This theory has been widely used in American legislative discourse and is apt in this regard because Nigeria practices the presidential system of government which it modelled from the United States with a bicameral legislative arrangement. Furthermore, the principal-agent theory emphasizes the institutional mechanisms whereby principals can monitor and enforce compliance on their agents. This theory is particularly appropriate for explaining accountability relationship between citizens (as principals) and the executive and legislative (both as agents) on the one hand, and between the legislature (acting as principals, on behalf of citizens) and both the executive and the bureaucracy on the other hand (as agents). The latter example clearly explains the suitability of this theory for this research. This is because the legislature by convention, has been given the constitutional rights monitor (on behalf of the citizens) the actions of the executive and its agency to bring about good governance.



(Source: Parliamentary Oversight Tools: A Comparative Analysis, Pelizzo and Stapenhurst, 2012)

In explaining public behaviour, Fukuyama (2004:190-191) pointed out that above all actors, the public (citizens) represent the ultimate principals. In a democracy, their first level agents are their elected representatives; the legislators act as principals with regard to executive branch agents delegated to carry out the policies that they have legislated. Problems occur when individual agents – government officials – put their own pecuniary interests ahead of their principals. To counteract such behaviour, and to better align the principal-agent model interests, greater transparency in the activity of agents is required, coupled with the holding of agents accountable for their actions through a variety of rewards and punishments.

However, Fukuyama (2004b) identifies three (3) problems that arise in applying the principal-agent model to public sector governance. First, the goals of public sector organisations are often unclear. Agents can only carry out the will of the principals if the principals are clear in what they want the agents to do. Second, formal systems of monitoring and accountability either entail very high transaction costs or lack the specificity of the underlying activity. And third, the appropriate degree of delegated discretion will vary overtime.

Due to the above challenges, an information asymmetry is created because, the bureaucracy has more information than the legislature and executive combined (as principals); the executive (as agents) have more knowledge than the legislature or citizens (as principals); in the same manner, the legislature (agent) has more knowledge than citizens (as principals). Nonetheless, these identified weaknesses do not diminish the importance of the principal-agent model to voter-legislature-executive relations. Contrariwise, it has engineered the development of a set of mechanisms that help the legislature (as principals, albeit on behalf of the citizens) to perform its ‘watchdog’ function over the executive (agents). These set of mechanisms are referred to as ‘Legislative Oversight Tools’

Application of the Theory

The principal-agent theory adopted for this research cannot be more fitting in the sense that, this study focuses on effect of legislation on good governance in Nigeria. In doing so, we must look at this function within the context of the legislature's systemic characteristics as a component part of a tripartite socio-economic and political arrangement. The legislature is a critical component of the three arms of government which form the structure of the Nigerian political system. Within this structure, the legislature performs functions which contribute to the effectiveness of the system to provide the dividends of democracy to the Nigerian people. Oversight performance is one of those critical legislation functions and its positive or negative conduct affects the output of the political system. The principal-agent model further explains the nature and trajectory of governance in an ideal arrangement where roles are performed within the framework of extant provisions. Sadly, a sharp disconnect and blatant disregard for the demands of the good governance, justice, equity and probity has seen a reversal of roles in the Nigerian context, where the executive assumes a position of principal and the citizens are treated like agents. This leaves the legislature in a quandary in the performance of its role as a representative body.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

This chapter is concerned with the various methods used in carrying out this study. The method includes research design, sample size and sampling technique, the population of the study, method of data collection, as well as method of data analysis.

3.1. Research Design

The research design refers to the overall strategy that you choose, to integrate the different components of the study coherently and logically, thereby ensuring you will effectively address the research problem; it constitutes the blueprint for the collection, measurement, and analysis of data. The function of a research design is to ensure that the evidence obtained enables you to effectively address the research problem as unambiguously as possible.

The research design adopted in this study is purely descriptive survey methods. A descriptive survey method of research involves a careful observation of the existing attributes of a particular event and gives a picture of a population. Survey design has the advantage of being an effective way of collecting information from a large number of respondents within a short period.

The researcher wants to identify the bills that were signed into law by the 8th National Assembly that promoted good governance in Nigeria, the researcher want to know how the various bills passed into law by the 8th National Assembly have led to good governance in Nigeria, it also what to know what other policies that are essential toward promoting governances in Nigeria beside legislation by the legislator.

3.2. Population of Study

The population for this research work are mainly staff of National Assembly members and National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS), Institute for national transformation (INT), lecturers and students of University of Abuja and National Institute for

Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS). Because they directly and indirectly deals with legislation and know more of the effects on good governance. Thus making it pivotal study areas suited for better understanding of the effect of legislation on good governance in Nigeria.

3.3. Sample Size

The sample size of this study was gotten using Taro Yamane, the formula is Taro Yamane given as:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where:

n is the sample size

N is the population of the study

E is the margin error in the calculation

We now have

$$n = \frac{134}{1 + 134(0.05)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{134}{1 + 134(0.0025)}$$

$$n = \frac{134}{1 + 0.335}$$

$$= \frac{134}{1.335} \approx 100.37$$

$$= 100.$$

In order to maintain a 95% confidence level from the responses from the respondents above, the sample size of 100 will be used. The hundred (100) made up of some legislators of the 8th National Assembly, staff of National Assembly, staff of National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS), Institute for National Transformation (INT), lecturers,

and students of University of Abuja and National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS). The sample size was determined purposefully.

Table 3.1: Sample size

| Respondents | No of staff | No of the questionnaires administered |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Senators | 109 | 10 |
| House of representative | 360 | 20 |
| Institute for National Transformation | 650 | 20 |
| Management staff of NILDS and NASS | 1223 | 30 |
| Lecturers | 25 | 10 |
| Students of NILDS | 450 | 43 |
| Total | 2763 | 134 |

Source: Fieldwork, April 2022.

3.4. Sampling Procedure

The procedure used in this study is judgmental/purposive Sampling techniques. Is a non-probability sampling technique where the researcher selects units to be sampled based on knowledge and professional judgment? The researcher adopted the judgmental sampling technique because it creates an avenue where the specialty of an authority (researcher) can

select other authority and can select other probability sampling techniques. This process involves purposely handpicking individuals from the population-based on the researcher's knowledge and judgment concerning their knowledge of the subject matter.

3.5. Method of Data Collection

Data collections for the study will be effected through two major sources – secondary and primary sources and were streamlined to meet the information requirements of this study.

3.5.1. Primary Sources

This source of data is very useful because the data are usually target-tailored. Since certain kinds of information can be obtained only by direct contact with the persons who possess the desired information, this source of data is indispensable to any original research. Hence, the primary source of data for this study was a field survey using questionnaires as the main instrument (hard copy and Google questionnaire).

3.5.2. Secondary Sources

Secondary data are those data compiled by other people for different purposes. An intensive review of literature in libraries, reports, journals, magazines, published books, materials from the internet, etc. make up the main secondary source of gathering information that enables the researcher to obtain background information as well as bring out pertinent experiences of other people concerning the kind of problem under consideration. It is noteworthy to mention that questionnaires were articulated in a structured way. The questions in the questionnaires required the respondents to tick their choices amongst the options provided.

3.6. Objective-by-objective approach

The objective-by-objective approach presents in detail the methods adopted in achieving each of the objectives. It is outlined to show the data type, method of data interpretation, and the expectations based on existing theory.

3.6.1. Objective I:

To identify the bills passed and signed into law in the 8th National Assembly in promoting good governance in Nigeria

Van Gestel (2014) stated that legislature enjoys the place of primacy in governance. Rightly, the legislature by design pursues its aspiration in governance using legislation. Therefore, it is necessary to identify as well as assess the bills of the 8th Assembly geared towards promoting good governance that was signed into law.

Data required: Qualitative and Quantitative data (Official gazette of the National Assembly showing the logs of legislation passed by the 8th National Assembly, Official gazette of the Federal Government, the Role of the Supreme Court, etc.).

Getting the data: A letter of introduction was obtained from the National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS) to the National Assembly Bill's office and the Journal Offices of the Supreme Court. This letter was necessary to allow access to the published Acts of the 8th National Assembly which contributed to the promotion of good governance.

Analysis of data: The content of the journals obtained was analyzed. This is because the content analysis requires the examination of recorded information because of the data required which in itself is a record of Acts passed by the 8th National Assembly which were geared towards promoting good governance.

Interpretation of data: The Acts identified to have contributed to good governance and passed by the National Assembly were presented in tabular form. Explanatory contents were outlined after the table, if at all.

Expected results based on existing theory: The study adopted the Principal-Agent theory in its conceptualization. Indeed, this theory emphasizes a relationship between Agents (lawmakers) and Principals (citizens) which buttresses the provision of Section 14 of the 1999 Constitution (as altered). Therefore, since Agents by this relationship are expected to act in the

interest of the Principal, the study expects that the Acts passed by the National Assembly contribute to the promotion of good governance in Nigeria.

3.6.2. Objective II: To examine the effects of some selected Acts of the National Assembly on good governance in Nigeria

Citizens are the beneficiaries of laws made by the legislature although they empower the same to make laws on their behalf. Laws are the guide and conscience of society. As a result, there is the need to examine the effect of laws enacted by the legislature on citizens.

Data required: Quantitative and Qualitative data (responses from the survey and kinds of literature, etc.).

Getting the data: Formal letters of introduction and survey questions were sent out to the respondents providing a guide on the specific areas of the study. The questions on the questionnaire were targeted at addressing the effects of the Acts passed by the 8th National Assembly on citizens given the place of lawmakers as Agents of the Principals (citizens). Based on the choice of population, the survey was administered to one hundred (100) respondents.

Analysis of data: The quantitative method was adopted in the analysis of data. This method employed the use of the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) in its conduct. Overall, this method emphasized the statistical description of a data set.

Interpretation of data: Responses from the questionnaire were analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) and presented in charts and tables. Overall, the simple percentages were adopted and the discussion followed a thematic approach.

Expected results based on existing theory: Given the postulation of the Principal-Agent theory which connotes the essence of representative democracy as well as the ethos of good governance, this study expects the laws enacted by the 8th National Assembly impacted the citizens positively.

3.6.3. Objective III: To identify the perception of the citizens on policies needed to complement legislations to ensure good governance in Nigeria.

Humans are dynamic and so are laws. Therefore, this objective set out to identify other measures that need to be in place to enhance the prospects of good governance in Nigeria. *Data required:* Qualitative and quantitative data (suggestion on relevant policies besides legislation to ensure good governance in Nigeria and respondents' responses on alternative measures that would further enhance the promotion of good governance).

Getting the data: To obtain the required data, the survey was accompanied by a letter of introduction to the target respondents. The survey responses were complemented with relevant literature. The Survey was administered to Staff of the National Assembly and the National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and students of NILDS. The respondents were selected purposely.

Analysis of data: Mainly, the quantitative method was used for the analysis of the survey data. Also, the content analysis method was adopted for the analysis of relevant literature concerning alternative policies that can complement laws enacted by the legislature in enhancing good governance in Nigeria.

Interpretation of data: the quantitative and qualitative methods were adopted for data interpretation. For instance, whereas the simple percentages were used in the interpretation of quantitative data, the prose method was adopted for the interpretation of qualitative data thus, giving the explanatory perspective to the quantitative data provided in tables. Overall, the simple percentage were adopted and the discussion followed a thematic approach.

Expected results based on existing theory: Again, the Principal-Agent theory stipulates that Agents (lawmakers) hold positions in trust for the Principals (Citizens). Consequently, since governance is for the good of the people and the primary purpose of government itself is to provide for the welfare and security of the citizens, it is believed that any alternative

policy initiative to enhance the promotion of good governance must positively impact the citizens.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

The chapter deals with data presentation, Analysis and Interpretation. It consists of the Bio- Data Analyses of Respondents, presentation and analysis and discussion of the finding.

4.1 Bio- Data Analyses of Respondents

4.1 Bio- Data Analyses of Respondents

Table 1: Gender

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------|------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Male | 45 | 45.0 | 61.6 | 61.6 |
| Valid Female | 28 | 28.0 | 38.4 | 100.0 |
| Total | 73 | 73.0 | 100.0 | |
| Missing System | 27 | 27.0 | | |
| Total | 100 | 100.0 | | |

Source: Fieldwork, April 2022.

In Table 1, showed that 45 of the respondents, representing 61.6% are male while. 28 representing 38.4% are female. From the above table, Majority of the respondents are male.

Table 2: Age Category

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|----------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 18 – 25 | 2 | 2.0 | 2.7 | 2.7 |
| 25 – 35 | 25 | 25.0 | 34.2 | 37.0 |
| 35 – 50 | 33 | 33.0 | 45.2 | 82.2 |
| 51 – Above | 13 | 13.0 | 17.8 | 100.0 |
| Total | 73 | 73.0 | 100.0 | |
| Missing System | 27 | 27.0 | | |
| Total | 100 | 100.0 | | |

Source: Fieldwork, April 2022.

In Table 2, showed that 2 of the respondents, representing 2.7% are within the age of 18 – 25, 25 respondents showed they are with 25 -35 and 34.2% of the respondents representing majority showed they are within 35 – 50 years old while 17.8% said they are within 51 years old and above. This showed that majority of the respondents are young and active participants.

Table 3 Respondents by Education Qualification

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|------------------------------|------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Second school certificate | 1 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 1.4 |
| OND/NCE | 2 | 2.0 | 2.7 | 4.1 |
| Valid HND B.Sc | 27 | 27.0 | 37.0 | 41.1 |
| Post-graduate | 43 | 43.0 | 58.9 | 100.0 |
| Total | 73 | 73.0 | 100.0 | |
| Missing System | 27 | 27.0 | | |
| Total | 100 | 100.0 | | |

Source: Fieldwork, April 2022.

In Table 3, 1 of the respondents, representing 1.4% had secondary education. 2 representing 2.7% have OND/NCE, 27 of the respondents, representing 37% have HND and B.Sc while 43 respondents representing 58.9%, of the respondents have Post-graduate degree. From the above table, the respondents are educated and knowledgeable of the question asked.

Table 4 Job Status

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Employed | 49 | 49.0 | 66.2 | 66.2 |
| Semi – Employed | 11 | 11.0 | 14.9 | 81.1 |
| Valid Unemployed | 8 | 8.0 | 10.8 | 91.9 |
| Investors | 6 | 6.0 | 8.1 | 100.0 |
| Total | 74 | 74.0 | 100.0 | |
| Missing System | 26 | 26.0 | | |
| Total | 100 | 100.0 | | |

Source: Fieldwork, April 2022.

In Table 4, 49 of the respondents, representing 66.2% are employed. 11 representing 14.9% are semi - employed, 8 of the respondents, representing 10.8% are unemployed while 6 respondents representing 8.19% are investors. From the above, majority of the respondents are employed.

Table 5. Category of Stakeholder

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---|------------------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Legislators | 3 | 3.0 | 4.7 | 4.7 |
| institute for National trans | 7 | 7.0 | 10.9 | 15.6 |
| Nass/NILDS Staff | 19 | 19.0 | 29.7 | 45.3 |
| Lecturers | 5 | 5.0 | 7.8 | 53.1 |
| Valid Students of tertiary institution | 15 | 15.0 | 23.4 | 76.6 |
| Entrepreneur | 4 | 4.0 | 6.3 | 82.8 |
| Public servant | 4 | 4.0 | 6.3 | 89.1 |
| Civil Servant | 7 | 7.0 | 10.9 | 100.0 |
| Total | 64 | 64.0 | 100.0 | |
| Missing System | 36 | 36.0 | | |
| Total | 100 | 100.0 | | |

Source: Fieldwork, April 2022.

In Table 5, 19 of the respondents, representing 19.0% are staff of NASS/NILDS, 15 representing 23.4% are students of tertiary institutions, others are Entrepreneurs, civil and public servants, etc. From the above, majority of the respondents are staff of NASS/NILDS.

Table 6 Legislature

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Senator | 10 | 10.0 | 40.0 | 40.0 |
| Member house of Reprs | 15 | 15.0 | 60.0 | 100.0 |
| Total | 25 | 25.0 | 100.0 | |
| Missing System | 75 | 75.0 | | |
| Total | 100 | 100.0 | | |

Source: Fieldwork, April 2022.

In Table 6, showed that 10 of the respondents, representing 40% are Senator while. 15 representing 60% are members of House of Representatives. From the above table, Majority of the respondents are members of House of Representatives.

4.2 Research Data Presentation and Interpretations

4.2.1 Five Major Bills the Lawmakers Passed that ought to Promoting Good Governance in Nigeria:

4.2.2 Not Too Young To Run bill: Popularly known as the Not Too Young To Run bill was passed with votes of (86-10) in the Senate on July 26, 2017, and 261-23 in the House of Representatives on July 27, 2017. The Not Too Young To Run bill movement which began in

May 2016, was led by young Nigerians and pushed by several civil society groups and was sponsored in the House of Representatives by Tony Nwulu and in the Senate by Abdul-Aziz Nyako. The bill aimed at the alteration in sections 65, 106, 131, 177 of the Constitution of Nigeria, which seek to reduce the age of running for elective positions for House of Assembly and House of Representatives from 30 year old to 25 year old, Senate and Governorship from 35 year old to 30-year-old and office of the president from 40 to 30 and independent candidate in. However, President Muhammdu Buhari signed the bill on May 31, 2018, signed the Not Too Young To Run bill into law, but age limits for Senators and Governors were, however, not reduced.

The gains of not too young to run have been destroyed with money bag politicians in political parties who have actively screened youth with innovative ideas from running for any elective office with the cost of expression of interest form.

4.2.3 Police Reform Bill: The Police Reform Bill, 2019 (SB 683), was passed at plenary by the Senate on Wednesday, 17 April 2019. The Bill seeks to create a Police Force that is more responsible and responsive to the needs of the public as enshrined in its mandate and in line with the values of fairness, justice and equity. The report was presented by Senator TijjanjKaura, while, Senator MaoOhuabunwa seconded that the Senate considers the report of the Committee.

4.2.4 National Minimum Wage Amendment Bill: The National Assembly passed the minimum wage bill on March 19 and it was transmitted to President Buhari on April 2, 2019. The minimum wage increase from N18, 000 to N30,000 was last reviewed during the administration of Goodluck Jonathan in March 2011. The Senior Special Assistant to the President on National Assembly Matters (Senate), Senator ItaEnang, disclosed that This makes it compulsory for all employers of labour in Nigeria to pay to their workers the sum of N30, 000.

The cost of good in the market presently and the high inflation in the country have made the N30,000 minimum wage an insult rather than a blessing. Even after been passed into law, many states of the federation has failed to implement the law. As of March, 2022 the following states (Zamfara, Taraba, Benue, Kogi, Cross River, Abia and Imo) are yet to implement the N30,000 minimum wage law.

4.2.5 Petroleum Industry Governance Bill (PIGB): The PIGB is the first part of the Petroleum Industry Bill, which the National Assembly had failed to pass since 2008. The lawmakers broke it into three parts for easier passage, but the bill had suffered several setbacks after it was rejected by President Buhari. However, the Senate during plenary, reworked and passed the Petroleum Industry Governance Bill in April 2019. According to Saraki, the eight Assembly broke the decade-old Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB) into a quartet of workable bills including the Petroleum Industry Governance Bill (PIGB), whose passage stands as a major achievement of the 8th Senate.

4.2.6 Whistle-Blowers Protection Bill: The bill, titled Witness Protection Programme (Establishment etc.), SB 157, was passed in 2017. It seeks to encourage and facilitate the disclosures of improper conduct by public officers and public bodies. It also seeks to ensure that persons who make disclosures and persons who may suffer reprisals concerning such disclosures are protected under the law. However, the Federal Ministry of Finance launched an anti-corruption programme that encouraged people to voluntarily disclose information about fraud, bribery, looted government funds, financial misconduct, government assets and any other form of corruption or theft. A whistle-blower who provides information to the ministry's portal will be rewarded or entitled to 2.5% – 5% from the recovered funds by the Federal Government. By August 2017, the ministry received a total of 5000 tips.

The Eight Assembly passed a total of 293 bills, more than its three predecessors; the seventh Senate passed 128 bills; sixth, 72 and fourth senate 129. Saraki also expressed delight in

the passage of the Nigeria Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU) Bill which saved the country from being expelled from the global body of the Egmont Group. The Nigeria Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU) Bill was one of the major anti-corruption laws we passed, and it saved the country from being expelled from the global body of the Egmont Group. Nigerian Football Federation Bill which had been caught in the legislative bottleneck for 15 years was also passed and signed into law

4.2.7 Effects of some of the bills since the Acts were signed into law in ensuring good governance in Nigeria

This section addressed the research questions based on the stated theme. Explicitly, it assessed the effects of the bills passed by the 8th National Assembly by exposing respondents' views along this line.

Do you agree that some of the bills signed into law by the 8th National Assembly reflected the views of Nigerians in response to issues that will help achieve good governance in Nigeria?

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Strongly Agreed | 42 | 42.0 | 57.5 | 57.5 |
| Strongly | 12 | 12.0 | 16.4 | 74.0 |
| Disagreed | 13 | 13.0 | 17.8 | 91.8 |
| Valid | 6 | 6.0 | 8.2 | 100.0 |
| Disagreed | 73 | 73.0 | 100.0 | |
| Uncertain | 27 | 27.0 | | |
| Total | 100 | 100.0 | | |
| Missing System | | | | |

| | | | | |
|-------|--|--|--|--|
| Total | | | | |
|-------|--|--|--|--|

Source: Fieldwork, April 2022.

In Table 7, 42 of the respondents, representing 57.5% strongly agreed that bills signed into law by the 8th National Assembly reflected the views of Nigerians in response to issues that will help achieve good governance in Nigeria. 12 respondents representing 16.4% strongly disagreed are semi - employed, 8 of the respondents, representing 10.8% are unemployed while 6 respondents representing 8.19% are investors. From the above, the majority of the respondents are employed.

Do you agree that the bills signed into law at the 8th National Assembly are consistent with Nigerians right and to privacy, dignity and prosperity?

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|--|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
|--|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|

| | | | | |
|-----------------|------------|--------------|-------|-------|
| Strongly Agreed | 19 | 19.0 | 26.0 | 26.0 |
| Strongly | 17 | 17.0 | 23.3 | 49.3 |
| Disagreed | 27 | 27.0 | 37.0 | 86.3 |
| Valid | 10 | 10.0 | 13.7 | 100.0 |
| Agreed | 73 | 73.0 | 100.0 | |
| Disagreed | 27 | 27.0 | | |
| Total | 100 | 100.0 | | |
| Missing System | | | | |

Source: Fieldwork, April 2022.

In Table 8, 46 of the respondents, representing 53% agreed that the bills signed into law at the 8th National Assembly are consistent with Nigerians' right and to privacy, dignity and prosperity. While 27 respondents representing 36.7% disagreed. From the above, the majority of the respondents are employed.

The Bills signed into law at the 8th National Assembly Addressed the issue of insecurities, corruption and promotes peace, unity and justice amongst citizens

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-----------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | Strongly Agreed | 27 | 27.0 | 37.0 | 37.0 |

| | | | | |
|--------------------|------------|--------------|-------|-------|
| Strongly Disagreed | 16 | 16.0 | 21.9 | 58.9 |
| Agreed | 23 | 23.0 | 31.5 | 90.4 |
| Disagreed | 7 | 7.0 | 9.6 | 100.0 |
| Total | 73 | 73.0 | 100.0 | |
| Missing System | 27 | 27.0 | | |
| Total | 100 | 100.0 | | |

Source: Fieldwork, April 2022.

In Table 9, 50 of the respondents, representing 68.5% agreed The Bills signed into law at the 8th National Assembly Addressed the issues of insecurities, corruption and promoted peace, unity and justice amongst citizens While 23 respondents representing 31.5% disagreed. From the above, the majority of the respondents agreed that the law passed addressed insecurities, corruption and promotes peace, unity and justice amongst citizens.

Are you aware that Nigeria is ranked 102 out of 104 nations under survey in the Chandler good governance 2021 report?

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|--|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| | | | | |

| | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|--------------|-------|-------|
| Yes | 39 | 39.0 | 53.4 | 53.4 |
| No | 21 | 21.0 | 28.8 | 82.2 |
| Valid | 13 | 13.0 | 17.8 | 100.0 |
| I don't know | 73 | 73.0 | 100.0 | |
| Total | 100 | 100.0 | | |
| Missing System Total | | | | |

Source: Fieldwork, April 2022.

In Table 10, 39 of the respondents, representing 53.4% are aware that Nigeria is ranked 102 out of 104 nations under survey in the Chandler good governance 2021 report While 34 respondents representing 46.6% do not know about it. From the above, a slight majority of the respondents agreed that they know about the survey.

Increase in government debt and decrease in budget surplus is as a result of no legislation that effectively addressed the issues

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|--|------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
|--|------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------------------|

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|-------|-------|
| True | 35 | 35.0 | 47.9 | 47.9 |
| Valid | 38 | 38.0 | 52.1 | 100.0 |
| False | 73 | 73.0 | 100.0 | |
| Total | 27 | 27.0 | | |
| Missing System Total | 100 | 100.0 | | |

Source: Fieldwork, April 2022.

In Table 11, 35 of the respondents, representing 47.9% agreed that an increase in government debt and decrease in budget surplus is a result of no legislation that effectively addressed the issues. While 38 respondents representing 52.1% disagreed by stating false. From the above, it can be said that an increase in government debt and decrease in budget surplus is not as a result of no legislation.

On a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 as the highest answer the following research questions:

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 18 | 18.0 | 24.7 | 24.7 |
| 2 | 20 | 20.0 | 27.4 | 52.1 |
| Valid 3 | 22 | 22.0 | 30.1 | 82.2 |
| 4 | 8 | 8.0 | 11.0 | 93.2 |
| 5 | 5 | 5.0 | 6.8 | 100.0 |

| | | | |
|----------------|------------|--------------|-------|
| Total | 73 | 73.0 | 100.0 |
| Missing System | 27 | 27.0 | |
| Total | 100 | 100.0 | |

Source: Fieldwork, April 2022.

In Table 12, 38 of the respondents, representing 52.1% disagreed on the effectiveness of the Compulsory Treatment and care for victims of gunshot Acts(2017) since signed into law, 22 of the respondents representing 30.1% could not agree or disagree While 13 respondents representing 17.8% agreed that it was effective, stating false. From the above, it was obvious that the law was passed implementation is the challenge.

To what extent has Diaspora Commission (Establishment) Acts (2017) helped to improve the global reputation and issues confronting Nigeria citizens in the Diaspora?

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 19 | 19.0 | 26.0 | 26.0 |
| 2 | 23 | 23.0 | 31.5 | 57.5 |
| 3 | 14 | 14.0 | 19.2 | 76.7 |
| Valid | 14 | 14.0 | 19.2 | 95.9 |
| 4 | 3 | 3.0 | 4.1 | 100.0 |
| 5 | 73 | 73.0 | 100.0 | |

| | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|--------------|--|--|
| Missing System Total | 27 | 27.0 | | |
| Total | 100 | 100.0 | | |

Source: Fieldwork, April 2022.

In Table 13, 42 of the respondents, representing 57.5% disagreed that Diaspora Commission (Establishment) Acts (2017) helped to improve the global reputation and issues confronting Nigeria citizens in the Diaspora While 17 of the respondents representing 23.3% agreed that it improve the global reputation and address issues confronting Nigeria citizens in the Diaspora. From the above, it was obvious that the establishment of the commission has failed to improve the global reputation and address issues confronting Nigeria citizens in the Diaspora.

Has the North East Development Acts (2017) helped the people from that region rise above social economic issues?

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|--|------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
|--|------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------------------|

| | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|--------------|-------|-------|
| 1 | 28 | 28.0 | 38.4 | 38.4 |
| 2 | 11 | 11.0 | 15.1 | 53.4 |
| Valid | 20 | 20.0 | 27.4 | 80.8 |
| 3 | 14 | 14.0 | 19.2 | 100.0 |
| 4 | 73 | 73.0 | 100.0 | |
| Missing System Total | 27 | 27.0 | | |
| Total | 100 | 100.0 | | |

Source: Fieldwork, April 2022.

In Table 14, 39 of the respondents, representing 53.5% disagreed that Establishment of North East Development Acts (2017) helped the people from that region rise above social economic issues While 34 of the respondents representing 46.6% agreed that it helped the people from that region rise above social economic issues. From the above, it was obvious that the establishment of the commission has failed to help the people from that region rise above social economic issues.

Choose from any of the under listed policy areas bellow

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent | |
|--------------|---|------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------|
| Valid | Policy addressing Human development | 18 | 18.0 | 24.7 | 24.7 |
| | Policy addressing Insecurity | 17 | 17.0 | 23.3 | 47.9 |
| | EMPLOYMENT Generation policy | 13 | 13.0 | 17.8 | 65.8 |
| | Policy on corruption Free society | 13 | 13.0 | 17.8 | 83.6 |
| | Policy on poverty Reduction strategy | 12 | 12.0 | 16.4 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 73 | 73.0 | 100.0 | |
| Missing | System | 27 | 27.0 | | |
| Total | | 100 | 100.0 | | |

Source: Fieldwork, April 2022.

In Table 15, 18 of the respondents, representing 24.7%, agreed that Increase in government debt and decrease in budget surplus is as a result of no legislation that effectively addressed the issues While 38 respondents representing 52.1% disagreed by stating false. From

the above, it can be said that increase in government debt and decrease in budget surplus is not as a result of no legislation.

4.2.8 To identify the perceptions of the citizens on policies needed to compliment legislations to ensure good governance in Nigeria.

This section examined other policy options that can enhance good governance in Nigeria.

What other policy do you think will help enhance good governance in Nigeria besides legislations?

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Policy on poverty reduction strategy | 20 | 20.0 | 27.4 | 27.4 |
| policy on security | 15 | 15.0 | 20.5 | 47.9 |
| Valid Fairness and justice | 23 | 23.0 | 31.5 | 79.5 |
| People Oriented Policies | 15 | 15.0 | 20.5 | 100.0 |
| Total | 73 | 73.0 | 100.0 | |
| Missing System | 27 | 27.0 | | |
| Total | 100 | 100.0 | | |

In Table 16, 20 of the respondents, representing 27.4% suggest Policy on poverty reduction strategy, 15 of the respondents, representing 20.5% suggest policy on security, and 23 of the respondents, representing 31.5% suggest Fairness and justice, while 15 of the respondents,

representing 20.5% suggest People Oriented Policies as other policy that will help enhance good governance in Nigeria besides legislations

What one recommendation will you proffer to the National Assembly with regardsto law making to ensure good governance in Nigeria

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Strict in oversight with stringent sanctions against violators. | 17 | 17.0 | 23.3 | 23.3 |
| Laws should reflect the realities of Nigerians home and abroad | 18 | 18.0 | 24.7 | 47.9 |
| To ensure that Laws passed are implemented and followed through | 22 | 22.0 | 30.1 | 78.1 |
| There should always be public memorandum | 16 | 16.0 | 21.9 | 100.0 |

| | | | |
|----------------|------------|--------------|-------|
| Total | 73 | 73.0 | 100.0 |
| Missing System | 27 | 27.0 | |
| Total | 100 | 100.0 | |

In Table 17, 17 of the respondents, representing 23.3% suggest Strict in oversight with stringent sanctions against violators, 18 of the respondents, representing 24.7% suggest Laws should reflect the realities of Nigerians home and abroad, 22 of the respondents, representing 30.1% suggest To ensure that Laws passed are implemented and followed through, while 16 of the respondents, representing 21.9% suggest There should always be public memorandum as recommendations proffer to the National Assembly with regardsto law making to ensure good governance in Nigeria.

4.3 Discussion of findings

A total of 73 responses were received out of 100 questionnaires administered. From the finding it was discovered that 45 out of the respondents representing 61.6% were males while 29 respondents representing 39.7% were females. From the age category, it showed that the majority of the respondents were between 35-50years, representing 45/2%. The finding also showed that the majority of the respondents 58.9% have a postgraduate degree. This reveals that its respondents are of high education and therefore understand the content of the questionnaire. From the data collected, 49 of the respondents 68.1% of the population are employed. The research showed that stakeholders who responded to the questionnaire cut across legislators, staff of NASS, NILDS, Institute for National Transportation, students of tertiary institutions, entrepreneurs, public and civil servants, etc. The majority of Nigerians agreed that some of the bills signed into law by the 8th National Assembly reflected the views of Nigerians in achieving good governance in Nigeria. 42.5% of respondents agreed that bills signed into law were

consistent with the Nigerian Right and for Privacy, dignity and prosperity while 34.3% disagreed. 50.6% of the respondents believed that laws made by the 8th National Assembly addressed issues such as insecurities, corruption, and promoted peace, unity and justice amongst Nigerians while 41.1% disagreed. The number of disagreed respondents is so significant that a clear majority can't be said to agree. From the data collected, it is obvious that majority of the respondents don't know about Chandler's good governance 2021 report that rated Nigeria poor on issues of good governance as 60.3% respondents don't know about fairness and justice, policy on poverty reduction strategy, Policy on security and people-oriented policies are some of the policies recommended by respondents that will enhance good governance in Nigeria besides legislations.

President Muhammdu Buhari signed the not too young to run bill into law on May 31, 2018, but age limits for Senators and Governors were, however, not reduced. The cost of buying expression of interest form from majority of the political parties and the cost of campaigning have destroyed the gains of not too young to run bill passed into law by Mr. President and the level of inflation in the country and non-implementation by many states of the federation have brought more pains than blessing to Nigerians.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND CONCLUSION

In this chapter, the summary, conclusion and recommendations of the study were presented. Overall, the summary contains an overview of the study, the conclusion has the deductions of the researcher while the recommendations are strategies

5.1 Summary Of Findings.

In any given democratic arrangement, the legislative arm of government possesses a focal position in the apparatus of government. Without a doubt, it has been observed that the legislature is the uniting string of democracy and osteitis most focal foundation. The study examined the effects of legislation on good governance in Nigeria using the 8th assembly as a case study. The legislature of any country is the binding force that helps transform politics into good governance of the country into a situation that highly addresses the yearning of her citizens. Primary and secondary data were used in the research work; the primary data were collected through the use of structured questionnaires and personal interviews. Data was subjected to Descriptive Statistics analysis and Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) was used for data presentation and interpretation. The output results of the Bio-data revealed that the majority (54.8%) of the respondents were mostly Males and a minimum of Secondary School Education at (24%), with maximum Tertiary Education (Post Graduate) at (2%). A total of 73 responses were received out of 100 questionnaires administered. From the finding, it was discovered that 45 out of the respondents representing 61.6% were males while 29 respondents representing 39.7% were females. The finding also showed that the majority of the respondents 58.9% have a postgraduate degree. Reviewed extant literature with reference to themes

emanating from our research questions and noted that although the arguments were coherent and logical, the scholars did not consider the effect of legislation and good governance in Nigeria using the 8th Assembly as a case study.

The study investigated the following research question:

- i. What were the bills passed and signed into law in the 8th National Assembly in promoting good governance in Nigeria?
- ii. What are the effects of some selected Acts of National Assembly in ensuring good governance in Nigeria?
- iii. What are the perceptions of the citizens on policies needed compliment legislation to ensure good governance in Nigeria?

From the research findings, the majority of Nigerians agreed that some of the bills signed into law by the 8th National Assembly reflected the views of Nigerians on achieving good governance in Nigeria. 42.5% of respondents agreed that bills signed into law were consistent with the Nigerian Right and for Privacy, dignity, and prosperity while 34.3% disagreed. 50.6% of the respondents believed that laws made by the 8th National Assembly addressed issues such as insecurities, and corruption, and promoted peace, unity and justice amongst Nigerians while 41.1% disagreed. Fairness and justice, policy on poverty reduction strategy, policy on security and people-oriented policies are some of the policies recommended by respondents that will enhance good governance in Nigeria besides legislations.

5.2 Recommendations

To bail this democracy from the doldrums of bad legislation and governance, and put it on the glorious path of sustainable development, the following recommendations are worthy of consideration.

1. The legislature should be insulated from the influence of the executive, this influence, in most cases, is counter-productive as it is meant to sway the minds of the legislators from the serious business of lawmaking.
2. Legislators must downplay political considerations and see the incentive in doing their jobs honorably and promoting the national interest.
3. Law-makers should be more responsible and responsive to their responsibilities. The excuse that is often given is that bills take time to go through the legislature because of lack of quorum is not tenable anywhere in the world. A solution to this ugly trend may be to make the salaries and allowances payable to the lawmakers vary directly with the number of times they participate in the proceedings on the floor of the house.
5. The leadership of the house should be more financially responsible. Award of contracts should follow due process and be carried out transparently.
6. It is a truism that some lawmakers display such an embarrassing level of ignorance of the legislative process that one is compelled to wonder if such persons could contribute meaningfully to the process on the floors of the legislative houses. It is therefore recommended that a regime of training and retraining should be put in place to educate the lawmakers on the business of lawmaking in the best interest of Nigerians that have elected them.

5.3 Conclusion

Good governance is achievable in Nigeria. The Nigeria National Assembly has been empowered by the 1999 constitution of the federal republic of Nigeria (as altered). It is important to look at the types of legislation being passed into law and the operational framework that will help address the issues of bad governance. Other if other countries like Rwanda, Botswana, Mauritius, etc. can achieve some measure of good governance. For instance, the Rwanda government is ranked the most effective government globally by the world economic forum (2015). Rwanda has undertaken several reforms aimed at building democratic-

centered and inclusive governance. The Nigerian legislature can benchmark such nations' institutions on how they can make legislations that have created the enabling environment f to achieve these realities.

The inevitable conclusion from the foregoing analysis of the effect of legislation on good governance in the Nigeria National Assembly reveals that the legislature has not lived to the expectation of Nigerians in terms of making laws that will guarantee good governance for the benefit of all and sundry. The legislators, as has been shown, have not demonstrated enough patriotism in support of Nigeria's fledgling democracy. The majority of the members are driven more by selfish desires for wealth accumulation than the patriotic desire of leaving enduring legislative legacies by taking a cue from other advanced jurisdictions of the world.

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