

**ORIGINAL ARTICLE**

**Methodology of the Multi-Disciplinary Problem: The Border and Socio-Cultural Interaction Approach**

**Osmond Agbor Otor**

Department of History and International Studies

University of Calabar

Calabar, 540281, Nigeria

Email: [otoragbor@unical.edu.ng](mailto:otoragbor@unical.edu.ng)

---

**Abstract**

The paper examines borders as regions lying along and astride the international frontiers separating one nation-state from another and sub-national areas whose economic and social life are directly and significantly impacted by proximity to an international boundary. It argues that beyond the town or district, there is a wider territory (of borderlands) usually described as a region, where regional consciousness is a reality. The study adopts the social studies approach which cuts across demarcation between disciplines and suggests a holistic approach using the participatory integrative methodology to the investigation of human problems. Findings did not only indicate the porous and artificial nature of the borderlands but also adds the psychological angle which reflects the mental predisposition of the border inhabitants towards a situation where man attempts to divide a culturally homogenous group of people into separate entities. The reasons are not only political and economic impositions by the main culture over the subculture but also a reflection of the supremacy of the imperialistic bureaucratic majority over the colonized underprivileged minority. The conclusion reflects the need for schools, colleges and universities to protect data to enhance border and social research.

**Keywords:** Border region, Socio-cultural interaction, Artificial boundaries, Sub-culture, Multidisciplinary problem.

---

**INTRODUCTION**

Perhaps there is no other topic in the entire academic enterprise that both perplexes and fascinates students and scholars alike, other than the topic of research. Research is the core, the *raison d'être*, the *modus operandi*, the beginning and the end of systematic study of any kind, ancient or contemporary (Yakob-Haliso 2016). In seeking to better

understand the social world and in this milieu, border scholars consider research to be the means for achieving this very important objective. The more time one invests in acquiring the skills of research, the more sophisticated and even recondite in research, its language and techniques, tends to become better and the higher one ascends the academic ladder.

Despite the rather emerging age of border studies as a field of study and the impact of various confrontational issues, it has made significant progress and proved its academic merits. Sevastianov, Laine and Kireev (2015) contend that there is quite a wide range of social and scientific circumstances, which indicate that border studies are on the verge of carving a niche of their own and really in need of it. This is understandable because border studies do not of course exist in a vacuum, but its evolvement and turning into a full-fledged scientific field of enquiry has been largely dependent on external conditions relating to various social systems and their boundaries have gone through revolutionary changes in terms of speed, scope and depth. Hence, it has been argued that the previously a social transformation of such an importance was in the sixteenth through the seventeenth centuries, when Europe led the rest of the world into the era of the nation-state (Sevastianov, Laine and Kireev 2015).

The main symptoms of the changes occurring are well known. Since the mid-twentieth century, the number of states in the global system increased by about three-fold, which has brought the national, political-geographic structure of the world into a new level of complexity (Archer & Shelley 2014). At the same time, a host of non-governmental actors ranging from small cross-border businesses to large transnational corporations, and from informal local movements to international non-governmental organizations appeared on the international stage, some of which are now fully proportional in terms of their resources and influence to the nation-state.

All these were accompanied by a remarkable increase in volume and intensity of international interaction, including interstate, transnational and cross border cooperation. It bears repetition to emphasize that the strengthening of mutual cohesion between various states and their border regions contributed to the formation of new cross border communities, distinct in the spatial configuration, up to the global society. The genesis of these socio-political communities according to Sevastianov *et al.*, (2015) and Offiong (2016a) is reflected in the wide use of such concepts as internationalization, transnationalization, regionalization and globalization. These processes also caused a discernible surge in cross-border crimes and conflicts, the most precarious feature of which is not their quantity and destructive potential, but rather their novelty, exceptional diversity as well as low predictability and manageability.

All the occurring contradictory changes are connected with social boundaries, and particularly with state borders. It is probably not an overstatement to argue that boundaries are in the epicentre of erosion of the modernistic world social and political order, and formation of post-modernist order. Boundaries, on the other hand, are markers

and mediators of these complex and not fully understood processes, but at the same time, they serve as instruments of their regulations. However, Otorá (2019) conjectured that the strategic, long-term management of boundaries and with the help of boundaries of states and societies requires a high level of useable knowledge about them, their structure and function.

## **SOCIAL CHANGES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF BORDER STUDIES**

While science certainly has its internal logic of development, and the study of borders is no exception, these profound social changes have impacted its state of affairs significantly. Border studies emerged largely within political geography at the end of the nineteenth century, yet much has changed the pioneering framework of early border studies. The focus of border studies has developed with predominant geopolitical models and visions; from studying borders as delimiters of territorial control and ideology towards areal differentiation and later towards the more dynamic role of borders as bridges rather than barriers (Asiwaju 1984; Olufu & Offiong 2017). The emergence of globalization and the rhetoric of a borderless world only fuelled interest in border studies and research. The apparent renaissance of border studies that followed acquired an increasingly multidisciplinary.

Since afterward, they have been an increasing interest from numerous academic disciplines regarding themselves as border scholars have multiplied in scope and dimension beginning from Europe as the nucleus and geographically reaching all regions of the world. What is more significant is the increasing array of scientific literature on borders and boundaries, which now consists of various types and genres of scholarly works. More so, undeniable progress has also been made in terms of formal institutionalization border studies as a field of study in specialized (universities, government and public) research units have been set up in many countries of the world; while the number of existing professional associations, the largest and most influential is Association of Borderlands Studies (ABS), are providing communication of professionals in the field of border studies at the supranational, macro-regional and, more recently, the global level (Sevastianov, Laine and Kireev 2015).

Furthermore, border studies have not only grown as a field of its own but also the topics and the issues under study as well as the methods used have evolved and become more increasingly diversified. The attention has shifted the actual borderline, its geography, delimitations and demarcations, to cover a variety of forms and types of social boundaries, both in their material and symbolic dimension. Boundaries are studied as complex, multifaceted phenomena inextricably interlinked with the states and societies they demarcate. Border studies have not only been expanded in terms of its problematique, but also into forms of its geographical reach as the field now percolates all continents. It is also been realized that many of the issues being studied lie beyond the exclusive preserve of a single discipline. Hence, the interest to study broad-ranging and

intertwined problems that involve a complex mix of phenomena and processes have impelled the conduct of research that necessitates a multidisciplinary approach. Indeed, border studies today is thus an increasingly multidisciplinary and multi-paradigmatic field, where different theoretical approaches and empirical methods from diverse disciplines of humanities and social sciences are effectively combined to better understand and interpret the complex social reality of the border (Blaschke & Merschdorf 2014).

Since border studies focus on the behaviour of human beings in their social environment, the discipline has undergone a tremendous metamorphosis over time and this has impacted the development of theory and methods of research. The traditional study of boundaries by political geographers and others to apprehend fundamental social and political issues of their existence, it is quite apt to state that questions concerning boundaries, frontiers and borderlands excite the perennial interests of scholars from almost all disciplines. Not surprising though, after all, every scholar is rooted in a particular community that borders on other communities. The scholar is a citizen of a particular state (discipline) which has boundaries and borderlands with other states. In the very unlikely situation of a scholar without a community or a state, such a scholar is nevertheless a person and a neighbour.

Neighbourliness and human anatomy seem to represent, on a personal level, the ultimate in boundary, frontier and borderlands studies. Every joint in the human system, for instance, is the quintessence of borderlands in the sense that it is a contact zone for the peripheries of at least two parts of the body. A joint in the human body can be paraphrased also as a boundary in the sense Adejuyigbe (1975, p. 7) describes it “as a point joining different parts of the body.” Another important reason why it is not surprising that the scholar exhibits an abiding interest in borderland matters is the fact that the scholar belongs to the privileged and elite group. This is the group that has much at stake in any state or society. A state which is constantly hostile to its neighbours leaves its borders in danger of external infiltration if not attack. Such a situation can spontaneously generate internal unrest and uneasiness amongst the populace, a perfect setting that can trigger a stampede amongst the elites. It is also a setting that can upset the status quo.

However, when we talk about boundaries, frontiers and borderlands, we do not mean to foster the impression that the concepts are synonymous or that they can be used interchangeably. Fortunately, however, the images which the concepts conjure are interdigitated in the sense that they are ‘trimese triplets.’ While a boundary represents the determinate physical end of a frontier for the moment and a borderland represents the region or zone on both sides of a given boundary (Momoh 1989). This characterization sounds a bit too dense and requires more elaboration. The borderland concept is regarded as the most ambiguous and controversial in terms of its vivacity and extent and not in terms of its bald characterization; borderland is the inter-communal zone or zones

bordering a boundary (Momoh 1989). In other words, the liveliness (whether confrontationally or cooperatively) of the contact zones of the peripheries of a boundary regime determines the extent to which it can be accepted as a borderland.

Borderlands are remarkable for their regional affinity as expressed in a common outlook as “a common subculture, customs, speech and livelihood replete with interactions of place, folks; the blending of the physical landscape and the general activities of man and the synthesis of the biospheres' endowments with a kind of personality that possesses the cohesion of sentiments and social unity” (Adeyoyin 1989, p. 375). In other words, borderlands are living reality because of their artificial, permeable and multidimensional nature. They provide border scholars and researchers with the opportunity to explore human problems, which are inherently complex, from a multidisciplinary perspective, the richness of which takes cognizance of that complexity.

### **THE PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF THE BORDERLANDS**

The problem investigated in this study is posited as follows: Given the nature of the borderlands and their attendant multidimensional characteristics, the fundamental question to answer is: what should be the appropriate methodology for the study of borderlands communities? But the issue of borderlands had been with man since the beginning of human existence as areas were taken for granted by their very location and situation. Because they are zones lying along binational boundaries, they enjoy specific working relationships with one another and each of the adjoining countries with which they come in contact. They are also adversely affected by the factors of development which are greatly reflected in their infrastructural and socio-economic advancement or the lack of it. In other words, the best person to discuss the problem of the border people, as it is, is probably the border man himself. This is because anyone will have a series of stories to tell, a freeman today and a bond the next. Borderlands are victims of political, religious, socio-economic, hence psychological changes. This is because as it has been argued by Professor Asiwaju (1984), that unlike Europe and other Western countries where border demarcation was naturally established, Nigeria's borders are porous because of the absence of natural demarcations, and to that extent, border inhabitants or dwellers are faced with multi-dimensional problems.

In Nigeria, examples abound of victims of borderlands due to the creation of states since 1967 (Undiyaundeye 2011a; Undiyaundeye 2011b). For instance, the man living at Ote formerly in the Western region suddenly finds himself one day living partly in Osun and partly in Oyo state. Because his farmlands are on either side of the main signpost which welcomes the visitor, and bids him goodbye from Oyo, he finds himself farming in Osun and Oyo states, worshipping in Oyo, with friends and relations on both sides of the artificial boundary separating Osun from Oyo. A division which to him never existed and still never exists, it nevertheless obliges him to respond to two sets of relations decreed respectively at Ibadan demanding him to pay his income tax at home and from

Ogbomoso also demanding his income tax on his farmlands. The peaceful settler suddenly finds himself torn apart at the slightest border conflict. His so-called friends turned open enemies, eager to take over his fertile farmlands. Schools that had welcomed his children because of his useful contributions to the community now regard the same children as aliens with restricted differential higher school charges. However, another aspect that must not be overlooked in the vexed issue is the rivalry that ensues and expands the frontier of development in the vivisected areas. Ruthless politicians emphasize and capitalize on the divisive aspects of the artificial boundary to create social unrest and gain cheap popularity and political victory. Examples can be multiplied of the problems of inter-state, inter-local government and inter-community borderlands within the same nation-state.

Along and astride international boundaries, too, the situation is not different. This is predicated on Asiwaju (2003, p. 13) submission that “despite differences in historical evolutionary circumstances and geographical characteristics, boundaries all over the world share a common destiny of universal particularism.” In Nigeria’s western boundaries with the Benin Republic, for example, Otoro Agbor indicates that the border areas along with Alagbe, Sanvee, Ketu, Okuto, Gbawojo, Igolo, Idiroko and Seme border towns, local folks are known to filter daily across the border bringing into Nigeria tomato puree, fresh and roasted fish, clothes, stockfish, liquor, jewellery, fruits and several food items. They exchange these through the medium of the naira for detergents, provisions, cocoa seeds and food. At the end of each day’s activities, the business had been successfully transacted bringing pleasures to the borderlanders on both sides of the international boundary by the simple fact of crossing the ‘artificially’ imposed boundaries (Otoro 2018).

Similarly, Nigeria’s southeastern borderlands with Cameroon bear the same cross-border mobility across the artificially imposed boundary (Egbe & Okoi 2017; Egbe & Okoi 2018). For instance, Otoro (2013) conjectured that:

... proximity to buying stations or markets are located or concentrated in the border communities of Abia, Ajassor, Agbokim Waterfalls, Ekimaya/Effraya, and Ikom metropolis in Ikom/Etung axis. In the Boki axis, the border markets are situated at Abon-Orok, Bashua, Danare, Bodam, etc, and Ekan in the Calabar axis. On the Cameroon side, border markets are located in such localities as Danare II, Ekok, Nsan-Araghatti, Ekondo-Titi, Bisou, Nchang, Kumba and Mamfe, etc (p. 205).

It is interesting to also note that cross-border trading in the southeastern borderlands like every other border region is not without the existence of middlemen buyers from both countries, financed by licensed trading companies crisscrossing the border in their business operations, thereby facilitating grassroots cross-border micro-integration (Otoro, 2013).

The above facts are corroborated by Asiwaju (1994) remarks, for instance, that there is a strong connection between the Western Yoruba and the Eguns in Nigeria, and the Yoruba and the Egun in the Eastern and Northern part of the Benin Republic. The same connection could be established between the Ejagham of Cross River of Nigeria and Western Cameroon, while the Fulani nomads and the Hausa of Northern Nigeria are closely related to the Fulani and Hausa in the Republics of Niger, Chad and Cameroon. The variously related peoples, especially the illiterates, (unlike the educated in both countries, who recognize the implications of international boundaries) interact freely. For example, trading (usually regarded as smuggling) in cocoa across the Nigeria – Benin and Nigeria – Cameroon, groundnut across Nigeria – Nigeria frontiers. To these people who live astride international boundaries, the attempt to militarize or close the border to check the excesses of political leaders, bring sanity to society and revamp an ailing economy, for this border people life is disrupted. Everything comes to a standstill. Hence, all said and done about economic sabotage and smuggling or border closure constitute meaningless governmental policies.

In the contention of Kwaghe and Ellah (2018) analysis, the complexity of the reality of the borderline becomes aggravating when one thinks that because of the artificial demarcation of the boundaries originated by European powers and imposed dividing lines separating people from the same home and placing them into different inter-colonial jurisdiction. As a result, the borderlander who is not a party to; he has now been made to feel different. Asiwaju (1984) vividly captured the scenario in the Nigeria – Benin border when he averred that:

there is a sharp and contrasting way of life between the educated elites of the Republic of Benin and Nigerian elites were recognized.... Both elites in either side had schooled in two different and distinct alien cultures and had gained a new social place and a new culture, and thus, were not inclined to work within the context of indigenous culture.

The severity of the situation is more on the Benin side of the international boundary because of the French rigidity and assimilation policy. For instance, the French policy did not allow the development of local tongue which included Fom, Egun and Yoruba in Benin, because French was being regarded as the unrivalled language of instruction from the preparatory or nursery school to the university. Similarly, one is aware the British policy of toleration encouraged not only the development of the mother tongue but placed it on the school curricula thereby making it recognized as a medium of instruction. By implication, therefore, Asiwaju (1984, p. 8), captured it thus:

...while the Beninnoise educated Yoruba is vast in French, he is completely illiterate in Yoruba orthography. He demonstrates his expertise of French, not only in language fluency but in his general comportment as bearers of the French culture, a situation that nauseates his counterparts on the other side of the artificial boundary who are not

only versed in English but deeply learned in local languages.

Therefore, as meeting points between nation-states and constituent peoples, cultures and institutions, border regions have always provided the hitherto little explored opportunities for the most effective and most profitable study of international sociology. Strassoldo (1973, p. 23) observed of the European border regions that they

... are the laboratories in which new principles of political organisations may be tested and refined. They are particularly promising environments for such thinking in social intervention because here, the grip of national ideology is less firm, than elsewhere. The drive to uniformity and centralization has done them extensive harm: frontiers hinder their development; the proximity of the adjacent state makes national stereotypes less pervasive; trans-frontier relationships highlight the common humanity emerging from national diversity.

Indeed, when due allowance has been made for local particularities of geography and culture, including varying levels of technological development, ethnic groups or culture areas, split by borders, tend commonly to resist the divisive or barrier functions of the boundaries. The feeling of inconvenience posed to peoples in cultural areas straddled by borders is so universally shared and encountered that an organisation is bound to attract a global subscription of membership of international organisations if it makes the problem and interest of artificially partitioned groups or regions its concern.

## **SUGGESTED METHODOLOGY**

As already stated above, the methodology of border studies it must be emphasized that the scientific study of boundaries is not reduced to speculative reflections of armchair researchers and relies today on the impressive arsenal of qualitative and quantitative methods and techniques, related in origin with a wide range of social, human, natural and exact sciences. Sevastianov, Laine and Kireev (2015), suggests that a systematic review of the issues of the relationship between formation, functioning and development of social boundaries and similar processes in the structures of the physical space. These important issues lying at the junction of the fields of border studies and such disciplines as social and physical geography, and ecology, no doubt are attracting the growing interest of scholars and researchers.

However, the understanding, interpretation and analysis of the objectives of comparative studies of boundaries need to be clarified. These usually include empirical comparisons of cross-local, cross-national and cross-regional types, in scope, time and space. More so, theoretical accounts that compare the already existing theoretical models of borders, transborder relations and border policies, as well as the concepts, approaches and paradigms behind these models are as important as the empirical studies. In other words, such targeted comparison of theories, concepts and approaches is necessary to



ensure that their interaction will not get transformed into an eclectic assembly, but will be based on their thoughtful mutual position and demarcation. The simultaneous and emerging development of theoretical and empirical comparative border studies has the potential to contribute to the consolidation of border studies, while avoiding at the same time, the dangers of national and disciplinary centrism and reductionism.

On the premise that the social sciences in general and social studies educators in particular in their claims that the proper study of man wherever he exists on the surface of the earth, requires an integrative participatory approach. Hence, the methodology used in the study of borderlands is that which views man as an essential actor with specific problems related to his environment and which must be appropriately diagnosed and applied to demonstrate man's mastery over, and contributions to his environment (Offiong 2016a). Green *et al.*, (2003, p. 419), referred to this type of study as participatory research identified as "research which is based on the democratic interaction between the researcher and those among whom the research is conducted."

The participatory research approach is relatively new in border studies, and it is traced to qualitative research roots. The participatory research is driven by the initiative for participatory governance and inclusive developmental leadership. The strength lies in the participation of the host community (i.e border communities) in the research process, aimed at identifying community problems as well as practical solutions (Ndubuisi and Chukwuma 2016). As a data collection strategy, the participatory research ensures that there is a mutual relationship between the researcher and the researched, the subjects and objects of knowledge production by the participation of the border people for themselves. Accordingly, Israel *et al.*, (1998) further indicate that the participatory research approach is guided by the following principles:

1. Recognises the community as a unit of identity;
2. Builds on strengths and resources within the community;
3. Facilitates collaborative partnerships in all phases of the research;
4. Integrates knowledge and action for the mutual benefit of all participants;
5. Promotes a co-learning and empowering process that attends to social inequalities; and
6. Disseminates findings and knowledge gained to all partners.
7. Besides the identified contributions of participatory research, however, it has been highly criticised for methodological limitations.

Such limitations hinged on lack of scientific rigour, naivety about the complexity of communication processes and group dynamics and power relations. The approach is also criticised to have reduced participatory methods of governance to the diagnostic stage, the myth of instant analysis of local knowledge, the instrumental character of participatory methods and underestimation of the costs of participation (Ndubuisi and Chukwuma 2016). Despite the weaknesses inherent in the participatory research method, the method has great potentials not only to gather reliable data and sensitive information,

but it also has the power to improve the situation of the local border residents.

To achieve these noble objectives, therefore, participatory research is advocated. Hopefully, this would lead to pragmatic reforms. Such reforms would not only involve the borderlanders in the research process and thus offer a learning opportunity to them as well as the researcher; but which would also incorporate the government officials and political leaders at all levels in the common inquiry. In this way, there arose a merger interest between the borderlanders and the researchers on the one hand and administrators on the other. Participatory research as emphasized in this study, not only fosters cooperation between and amongst the researcher, borderland communities and authorities, but also, leads to the establishment of development projects and cross-border governance (Pain & Francis 2003). The best that can be attained for border regions is in the area of development projects where efforts will be directed at developing each border region.

To embark on this pragmatic research that will provide an adequate understanding of the complex reality of borderlands and provide a view of human behaviour such that each individual is seen as an active agent in his environment rather than a passive object functioning only to the tune of ‘unrealistic’ government policies, many fields of knowledge such as is incorporated in integrative education, must be employed (Adeyoyin, 1982; Akanji *et al.*, 2005). Stressing on the efficacy of integrative education, Williams (1976) observed that research communities have tended to become preserves belonging to specialists, a situation which has resulted in the creation of artificial barriers between disciplines, which in turn had tended to make researchers feel unqualified or not free to venture into areas considered reified. The specific values of each discipline have pressed to the neglect of values common to several or all. Williams further remarked that disciplines curriculums have come to resemble the hundred yards course, each discipline following a tract marked off from the others by a ledge that the though “specialism has certain strengths and marked characteristic, it is argued that the common grounds of convergence of disciplines, the seedbed of sound learning, should not be neglected” (Williams 1979, p. 57).

This is the high point for the social studies integrative approach to the study of man. Social studies do not claim early specialization, but rather, a broad-based education that enables the individual to perceive a given aspect in its eclectic dimensions. Its approach cuts across the barriers in subject areas. Its capacity is a wealth of knowledge derived from a wide array of mutually exclusive sources ranging from humanities to the social and physical sciences, and law, etc. Its efficacy is participation in experiences to be felt and lived through as concrete experiences not as abstract reasoning. The process reveals a systematic progression from the known to the unknown, the familiar to the distant approached wholly not partially. However, any approach at a proper study of the border (lands) region must take cognizance of these aspects to preserve their inner coherence, unity and harmony of character in a natural balance.

## CONCLUSION

The basic assumptions from which this study derives are that border regions as socio-cultural systems are a living reality. They are part of the society and are characterized by an inner coherence and unity which is essential to their very nature and existence. Within this existing reality, one could meaningfully identify an interrelated complex of traits and not a haphazard assortment. It could be further stressed that the idea that a society is like an organism the parts of which are in a natural balance that should not be disturbed by arbitrary innovations derived from abstract reasoning (Offiong 2016b). Similarly, border regions by their nature and characteristics; have attained certain harmony of character which is distinct and peculiar to the inhabitants. Their study, therefore, requires systematic analysis, integrating the interplay of knowledge and experiences to bring out their richness and quality of life holistically. The quality of knowledge produced will depend greatly on the integrity of the data collection and application. The information provided on research data will guide border scholars and different categories of social researchers into improving their capacity in borderlands and social inquiry. It is, therefore, recommended that governments, schools, colleges and universities should improve on data storage and management to forestall avoidable and unnecessary challenges confronting research communities.

## REFERENCES

- Adeyoyin, F. A. (1982). "Social Studies: An Overview." Aina, N. F. *et al* (eds). *Social Studies: A Book on Methodology*. Ibadan: Evans Brothers.
- Akanji, T., Akpama, S. I., Andong, H. A., & Osiji, P. A. (2005). Adult and Non-Formal Education as a Tool for Conflict Transformation in Nigeria. In *Annual Conference of NNCAE held on the 27th November to 1st December*.
- Archer, J. C., & Shelley, F. M. (2014). Theory and Methodology in Political Geography. *Progress in Political Geography (Routledge Revivals)*, 11.
- Asiwaju, A. I. (1984). *Artificial Boundaries*. New York: Civilitis International.
- Asiwaju, A. I. (2003). *Boundaries and Integration in West Africa*. Panaf Pub.
- Blaschke, T., & Merschdorf, H. (2014). Geographic information science as a multidisciplinary and multiparadigmatic field. *Cartography and Geographic Information Science*, 41(3), 196-213.
- Egbe, B. O., & Okoi, I. O. (2017). Colonialism and origin of boundary crisis in Nigeria. *Lwati: A Journal of Contemporary Research*, 14(4), 95-110.
- Egbe, B. O., & Okoi, I. O. (2018). Pre-Colonial Inter-Group Boundary Relations in Africa: The Nigerian Experience. *Lwati: A Journal of Contemporary Research*, 15(1), 64-75.
- Green *et al*. (2003). "Appendix C: Guidelines for Participatory Research in Health Promotion." M. M. Minkler and N. Wallerstein (eds). *Community-Based*



*Participatory Research for Health*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass Inc.

- Kwaghe, Z. E., & Ogbang, E. T. (2018). "Boundary Disputes in West and Central Africa: An Assessment of the Nigeria – Cameroon Dispute in the Bakassi Peninsula, 1961 – 2013." *Lafia Journal of History and International Development*, Vol. 1 (2): 217-233.
- Ndubuisi, N. E and Chukwuma, N. C. (2016). "Methods of Data Collection." Okolie, A. M and Ajene, O. G. (eds) *Research Methodology in Social Science Analysis*. Abakalilki: Nigerian Political Science Association.
- Offiong, E. E. (2016a). Environmental degradation and conservation in the Cross River area: A historical appraisal of colonial and post-colonial interventions. *People: International Journal of Social Sciences 2 (1)*, 607-621.
- Offiong, E. E. (2016b). Society in transition: The encounter of traditional African socio-cultural and religious practices with modernity in Calabar. *Lafia Journal of African and Heritage Studies*, 1(1).
- Olufu, G. O., & Offiong, E. E. (2017). Bekwara and Tiv relations in the Benue-Cross River valley to 1960. *Journal Mandyeng Journal of Central Nigeria Studies*, 1(1), 76-86.
- Otora, O. A. (2013). "Artificial Boundaries and the Political Economy of Border Regions: A Study of Clandestine Movements and Economic Activities across the Cross River (Nigeria) – Southwest Cameroon Border Region." *Journal of African Politics and Society*, 2(2), 196-211.
- Otora, O. A. (2018). "Cross-Border Economic Flows across Nigeria's International Boundaries: Implications for Human Security in Nigeria's Western Borderlands." *Port Harcourt Journal of History and Diplomatic Studies (PJHDS)*, 5(3), 97-120.
- Pain, R., & Francis, P. (2003). Reflections on participatory research. *Area*, 35(1), 46-54.
- Sevastianov, S. V., Laine, J. P., and Kireev, A. A. (eds). (2015). *Introduction to Border Studies*. Vladivostok: Dalnauka.
- Strassoldo, R. (1973). "Frontier Regions: An Analytical Study." Background paper to the Second European Conference of Ministers Responsible for Regional Planning, 25-27 September, at Strasbourg.
- Undiyaundeye, U. A. (2011a). Patriotism or Enlightened Self Interest: A Causal Analysis of Nigeria's First Coup d'état. *The Calabar Historical Journal*, 5(1&2), 131-156.
- Undiyaundeye, U. A. (2011b). The 1953 Motion of Vote of No Confidence: Nigeria's First Constitutional Coup d'état. *The Calabar Historical Journal*, 5, 223-242.
- Willams, M. (1976). *Geography and the Integrated Curriculum*. London: Heineman.
- Yacob-Haliso, O. (2016). "Introduction to Research." Okolie, A. M and Ajene, O. G. (eds) *Research Methodology in Social Science Analysis*. Abakalilki: Nigerian Political Science Association: 1-21.