



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Agricultural Extension, Economics & Sociology
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJAEES_26019
Title of the Manuscript:	SOCIOLOGICAL APPRAISAL OF POLITICAL CRIMES IN BENUE STATE
Type of the Article	Case study

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment <i>(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
<u>Compulsory</u> REVISION comments	Author should revise the paper and: 1. Define what he meant by "political crime" and situate it within the context of criminology as "white collar or elite crime", and show where such criminal behaviours are defined as offences within the Nigerian law, especially the electoral law since the author focused on electoral offences. Indeed, there are more serious political crimes that are not related to election. Eg, assassination of political opponents, etc. 2. Restructure the paper by giving a brief background information on Benue state after the introduction. The information should be related to the causes of political crime, and not much about tourism potentials of Benue state as shown in the paper. The discussion on the method of data collection and analysis should come before the explanation on the causes and location of political crimes in Benue state. The tables are too many and meaningless as they only reflect what the author has reported as analysis of the data. Paper is better without the tables as the analysis would suffice. Importantly, all the variables used for sampling opinions, such as sex, education, religion, etc, should have been used to determine the prevalence and impact of political crimes among such groupings rather than just	



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	targeting them as sub-categories of interviewees. In short, the analysis is not scientific and methodical. For example, so what if the author concludes that “what this data entails is that majority of the respondents of this study are married” or majority are from low income category, etc? The implications of all those factors on political crimes should be explored and reflected on specific case studies in Benue. Finally, the paper should be revised to really focus as a case study and reference should be made to specific incidences of political crime that occurred in Benue state over time. There are many that can be explored from the reports of post election violence panels and other conflicts in Benue state. The analysis should be more thorough and should buttress all the conclusions drawn by the author. For example, the paper should show that political crime exists in Benue, i.e. in terms of preponderance and manifestations; how it affects socio-economic development; how it creates political instability and undermines good governance; how corruption, greed, unemployment and all the other factors facilitate it, etc, and make specific recommendations on how it can be curtailed or prevented in the future.	
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<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	Revise to correct the many grammatical mistakes and misuse of singular and plurals, including possessive nouns. Some information, for example, the number of LGAs in Benue can be given in footnotes to give more space for a more thorough analysis of the causes, effects, impacts and remedial solutions to the problem. There should be consistency in the Harvard style referencing used. Where the reference is given at the end of a sentence, as in lines 119, 130, 136, etc, the name of the author, date of publication and page number should be in bracket. Eg, (Lyam, 2005:101) as done @ lines 253, 254, and 267 except the pagitation there.	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	The paper is a good attempt to address a sociological problem in Nigeria but it did not bring out the case study it intended. The author is encouraged to consult recent Reports on Conflicts in Benue state to obtain useful information.	

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