

THE EFFECT OF BOARD DIVERSITY ON AUDIT QUALITY IN NIGERIAN CONSUMER GOODS FIRMS

Gideon Tayo Akinleye

Department of Accounting, Faculty of Management Sciences,
Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti.

Yunus Abdulrasheed Bolaji

Department of Accounting, Faculty of Management Sciences,
University of Ilorin, Ilorin.

Abdulrafiu Dauda

Department of Accounting, Faculty of Management Sciences,
University of Ilorin, Ilorin.

Opefolu Francis Olatunji

Department of Accounting, Faculty of Management Sciences,
Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti.

Abdulumumin, Biliquees Ayoola

Department of Accounting, Faculty of Management Sciences,
University of Ilorin, Ilorin.

Abstract

This study investigates the effect of board diversity on audit quality in Nigerian retail firms. The study uses time series and data (panel data) from stock companies listed on the Nigerian Stock Exchange and data from secondary sources (annual financial statements) of those listed on the Nigerian Stock Exchange. Exchange from 2015 to 2019. Example of 10 companies used And the statistical tools used in the study are descriptive statistics, correlation analysis, and panel least squares regressions using SPSS 20. The study found that gender differences do not have a significant impact on the quality of research at home. -- igerian customer service, various non-essential vessels. Impact on the quality of research in Nigerian consumer c panies using products that trade in different types of home certification does not have a significant impact on the quality of research in Nigerian consumer companies. The study suggests that other academic researchers look at companies in other sectors of the Nigerian economy and that the period covered should be extended between 20 and 40 years to obtain accurate results and data analysis using multiple analytical methods. The quality and application of changes to centralization or other industrial management techniques to increase productivity.

Keywords: Audit Quality, Board Director, Corporate Board Diversity, Consumer Goods

Introduction

The recommendation states that general-purpose financial information should be provided to investors, potential investors, and other funders to help them make informed investment decisions (Arowoshegbe, Uniamikogbo, & Atu, 2017; International Accounting Standards Board, 2018). The increasing number of corporate bankruptcies over the years around the world has increased investors' lack of confidence in published financial statements, and poor corporate performance is attributed to corporate problems among management and business owners (Abogun, Fagbemi, & Balogun, 2013). Therefore, auditors are seen as "gatekeepers" to add credibility to financial reports. However, some well-known companies fail soon after publishing strong financial statements. The Board of Directors is responsible for controlling management on behalf of the shareholders. Company experts argue that directors must have an effective oversight function to protect the interests of shareholders and that this oversight function affects the performance of the corporate body, which affects things like the structure of the company. The board and the degree of analysis, the size of the board, the duality of the business leader, the different types of business boards, information asymmetries, and the culture of the board (Aobdia, 2019; El-Faitouri, 2014)

The reliability of financial reports is often low due to the incessant failures of companies, and investors need a level of confidence before investing in companies. Therefore, audit quality is an important factor in strengthening the reliability of financial statements in the hands of the users of accounting information. Chalaki (2012) describes research behavior as a matter of corporate governance, a process that has received much attention in recent years from scholars, entrepreneurs, and those who manage. The audit is expected to add credibility to financial reporting due to the increase in business failures. However, it is a matter of concern that some reputable companies have collapsed soon after publishing their audited financial reports. This undermines the role of audit reports as a key factor in enhancing the reliability of financial statements. Users of financial statements rely on audit reports to obtain approval of financial statements prepared by management for shareholders. It is difficult for users to evaluate the quality of research because they do not have access to the research evidence gathered during the research. They can only trust the name and authority of the analyst who gives his opinion. Many studies on different firms and research quality have been done by different researchers in Nigeria and around the world.

The conclusions drawn from their indirect research are not inconsistent. Organizational structure is considered one of the most important management systems that influence management behavior (Fama & Jensen, 1983; Panda & Leepsa, 2017), and many statistical studies show the role of the organization to show that the company can do more. Boards are associated with more disclosure, less financial control, and lower audit risk (Gul & Leung, 2004; Waagelein, 2007), according to the researchers, as the company will have a monitoring function. Therefore, this study answers the question of whether there is a relationship between different types of companies (gender, age, and level of education) and the quality of research in Nigerian consumer companies. The main purpose of this study is to examine the impact of board diversity on audit quality in Nigerian stock market firms. However, it is said that in order to achieve the set objectives: i. to investigate the impact of gender differences on the quality of research in Nigerian consumer organizations, ii. to determine the differential effect of board age on audit quality in Nigerian retail firms; and iii. to examine the impact of board diversity on academic qualifications and audit quality in Nigerian retail firms.

Despite the fact that this was the first thing we did on this topic, many gaps remain in the work. Organizational diversity allows companies to recruit and retain the most effective mix of talent

(Damagum, Oba, Chima, & Ibikunle, 2014), but previous research has focused on gender (Akpotor, Osemwengie, & Imuentiyan, 2019). The study extended previous literature by examining other variables such as academic achievement and age groups. The results of this research study will be of great benefit to policymakers, industry agencies, academic researchers, and others who use financial resources. This research work examines the effects of research institutions.

Literature Review

Audit Quality

The definition of audit quality is also not the same, according to the differences between the councils. But many scholars, such as Riyatno (2007) and Salehi and Azary (2008), believe that audit characteristics mean how audit can protect the interests of employees by detecting and reporting irregularities in financial statements, if they exist, and reducing the information gaps between those who prepare and those who use the financial statements. Salehi and Kangarlouei (2010) argued that quality can be seen in two aspects, namely the understanding of users of financial information and the capacity and expertise of auditors. Employee perceptions of financial statements describe how employees view audit reports. In other words, does it represent the true state of the business? While the auditor's capabilities and skills define the auditor's ability to investigate and the integrity to report violations,

Board of Directors

Corporate governance is one of the most important aspects of corporate governance in an organization. The role and effectiveness of executives have received much attention in academia. According to Liu and Fong (2010), leading companies are seen as important companies that reduce the company's problems arising from a lack of capacity. The ability of a company to manage conflicts arising from the division of ownership between owners and management and for the company to help reduce its costs is known as management control (McIntyre, 2007). Izuku (1994) defined the board of directors as a board consisting of directors appointed by the company's shareholders who are responsible for the management and direction of the company's affairs. According to Yahaya (1992), the board of directors is a group of people appointed by the owners of the company to represent their interests in the management of the company's affairs.

Corporate Board Diversity

Different management companies mean different things to different people. According to Van der Walt and Ingle (2003), different types of boards can be defined according to the characteristics and skills of board members. Although the focus is on gender differences, factors such as the age, ethnicity, education, and professional qualifications of directors can be considered as a means of checking whether the company is the same or different. A detailed examination of the various industrial establishments will be carried out first.

Marimuthu (2008) defines institutional diversity as inequality in terms of age, race, ethnicity, gender, and cultural identity within the same institution. It is also defined as the composition of a company's board of directors with the characteristics, skills, and specificities of the members it represents (Vanderbilt, Walt, & Ingle, 2003). Researchers have encountered problems with how to measure different types of plants; however, there are many differences in their size. Some of the characteristics of representative boards are gender diversity, age of directors, and board size (Ekludet et al., 2009).

Theoretical Review

Resource Dependence Theory

This study is supported by the concept of resource dependence theory. The main points for understanding the relationship between society and organizations are that these organizations are not independent but constrained by and social networks with other organizations. Commitment, when combined with uncertainty about the behavior of trusted members, leads to a situation of uncertain survival and progress; therefore, various organizations take action to control crime based on the outside, although such actions will not be able to be fully successful and create a new foundation; and these coordination processes create group and collective power, where such power has certain effects on organizational behavior (Hillman, Withers, and Collins 2009). This research is consistent with resource reliability theory and argues that different boards will improve performance.

Empirical review

The results of several studies on the impact of board diversity on audit quality are mixed (Okioga 2013). While some studies show that diversity positively affects search quality, others find that diversity in the plant environment affects search quality. It has been debated and argued that women possess important qualities important to good leadership, such as persuasion, risk-taking, accounting and financial expertise, and being good decision-makers. (Abu, Okpeh, & Okpe 2016); Adams & Ferreira 2009; Damagum et al. (2014); Salaudeen et al. (2015); and Chima & Ibikunle (2014) study the role of women in HLM work and features using a sample of 20 companies representing different sectors of the Nigerian economy. They performed a sound cost estimate and developed an integrated creative definition. The results provide strong evidence that the presence of a female director does not improve the quality of audit reports, although the reliability of audit report characteristics increases as the number of women on the board increases.

Oba (2014) investigated the potential of board behavior to influence management behavior in relation to audit quality in Nigerian listed companies. We recommend that the approximation of search quality be calculated using the Dechow and Dichev model. The study uses panel data collected from the annual reports of 69 Nigerian listed companies from 2008 to 2012. The study examines director independence, tenure, gender diversity, and distribution of directors, a benchmark for quality research in Nigeria. The size of the board was found to have a neutral effect on audit quality.

Akpotor et al. (2019) investigated the different types of boards and audit quality in Nigeria over a period of six years (2012–2017), employing fifty (50) listed companies in Nigeria and using the methodology of panel least squares regression. Square (PLS), we found that gender and diversity have a significant relationship with the quality of the audit, but there is no significant relationship between the gender composition of the audit committee and the quality of the audit.

Alawaqleh and Almasria (2021) study (1) the relationship between CEO tenure and audit quality; (2) the relationship between CEO duality and audit quality; (3) the relationship between agency independence and audit quality; (4) the relationship between board size and audit quality; and (5) the role of change management (customer size, leverage, and business sector) in controlling these relationships. The analysis includes the financial reports of 325 industrial companies listed on the Amman Stock Exchange for the period 2014–2018. Relationships were tested by logistic regression. The results show a negative but not significant relationship between CEO tenure and independent

directors' audit quality. Furthermore, the results show that CEO duality affects audit quality; the results also show that board size has a significant effect on QA. In general, the estimates of the number of managers show that the size of the customer and the debt affect the quality of the audit, and on the other hand, the complexity has a positive and insignificant relationship with the quality research. The summary of the results of the audit is active in the opinion of the external auditor regarding the behavior of the company and the management system of the tower.

Zimmerman, Seidel, Lisic, and Truelson (2020) examine whether different accent styles at accounting firms, such as differences in key audit results of local firms, affect research quality. An organizational culture that emphasizes diversity of opinions and experiences can have a significant impact on the success of research in the community as a whole. We expand on the complexity of different research participants in the industry by identifying and integrating differences between the following characteristics: gender, age, religion, race, nationality, and education. Our results show that greater differences between search partner firms are associated with higher search quality among client firms, increasing customer, local community, search firm, and partner characteristics. These results underscore the importance of a research institute culture that values diversity and makes a valuable contribution.

Saidu and Aifuwa, 2020, concluded that the scandals of unscrupulous enterprise affecting the corporate world today are of great concern, and even the so-called big four have had a lot of success lately. Against this background, we conducted a study to examine the impact of corporate identity on the quality of audits of manufacturing companies in Nigeria. This theory is a positivist research theory, and the research method is developed using a quantitative research method. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used to collect data and draw conclusions about the study population. We used binary probit regression to test the stated hypotheses. The results show that board size has a positive and significant relationship with audit quality. The study found no evidence of a relationship between board independence, gender, and audit quality. The study also found no evidence of a moderating effect of the presence of women on the board on the relationship between board independence and audit quality. The study concluded that board characteristics did not affect audit quality. Therefore, we recommend that the number of non-executive directors be reduced in the manufacturing industry to improve the quality of research.

Khudhair et al. (2019), post that audit quality and audit committee issues have received a lot of attention from auditors, public auditors, and governments, especially after corporate scandals in companies such as Enron, Crossing Global, Tyco, and WorldCom. These concerns discourage investors from investing in foreign companies in the country. The main purpose of this study is to determine the effect of internal and external governance measures such as the size of the board of directors, the independence of the audit committee, the opinion of the board of directors, and the meeting of the board of directors. quality of research in selected institutions. The study was conducted with a sample of Iraqi non-financial corporations. The dependent variable is the audit trail as a variable and is scored 1 if the firm receives audit services from the top five audit firms and zero otherwise. To achieve this research objective, the study uses a logit regression model. The results show that there is a positive relationship between the quality of the audit and the percentage of non-executive directors in the audit committee. The findings of this study will be useful for policymakers, researchers, accountants, financial experts, and auditors to understand the importance of the concept of audit quality and the factors that affect the quality of the audit of any business that does not spend money in Iraq.

Khan and Abdul Subhan (2019), examine the impact of board diversity on audit quality and financial performance through a survey of listed companies in Pakistan. Different things were studied by the Board of Directors in relation to different countries and different types of gender. Research analysis in the areas of research quality and research costs Although many organizations want to have a diverse board structure, the impact of board diversity on company performance remains unclear. In this study, the results show interesting details about the different types of companies and the company's financial performance. Higher audit costs lead to more efficient audit activity than firms with lower audit costs. The research sample includes companies listed on the Pakistan Stock Exchange's (PSE) 100 Index. The PSE-100 index is selected based on the highest regional representation in market capitalization. We collected panel data over the period from 2008 to 2017. In the process, the study uses quantitative econometric methods and panel data to fill the research gaps in the existing literature on governance. The results show that the presence of female members helps to improve the company's performance, while the number of female employees does not affect the firm's financial performance. National differences are negatively associated with strong financial performance, mainly due to differences in cultural understanding and communication barriers. A high research cost indicates good research because the research time is extended and professional research staff conducts in-depth research, which makes the research cost high.

Ayobami and Owolabi, (2020), studied the effect of corporate governance on audit quality in depository banks (DMBs) in Nigeria. This study also examines and identifies the differential effects of gender, board size, non-board executives, foreign directors, and corporate structure on audit quality in Nigeria's IDMB. Secondary data was collected from fifteen (15) listed banks over a period of twelve years (2007–2018). Data were analyzed using panel data analysis based on regression models, fixed effects models, and random effects models, while the Hausman test was used to select the best model. The results show that ethnic diversity, board structure, and board size are important variables that can explain the audit quality of investment banks in Nigeria, but foreign diversity cannot explain the quality of the audit. An increase in ethnic representation on the board will have a significant impact on the credibility of banks in the country.

Methodology

Model Specification

The definition of the model for this research is based on the theory of the reliability of sources, as it combines the dependent variable (research analysis) and the independent variables (differences in age, differences in education and gender).

$$AUQ_{it} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 BGD_{it} + \beta_2 BAD_{it} + \beta_3 DEGI_{it} + \beta_4 CON (FSZ)_{it} + \varepsilon_{it} \dots\dots (1)$$

Where

AUQ=Audit Quality

BGD=Board Gender Diversity

DEQ=Diversity in Educational Qualification

CON=Control Variables which is the firm size

TABLE 1

Variable Measurements

Variables	Definition	Measurement
AUQ	Audit Quality	1 if the firm is using the big4, 0 otherwise
BGD	Board Gender Diversity	Ratio of Total number of women on the board to total number of board members
DEQ	Diversity in Educational Qualification	Ratio of Total number of board members with business qualification to total number of people on the boards
BAD	Board Age Diversity	Ratio of Total number of board members not older than 50 years to total number of board members
CONT (FSZ)	Firm Size	Net Asset

Research study

The study adopted an ex post facto design for the study. The ex post factorial design according to Denga and Ali (1983) is a design that helps to examine possible causes and effects of interactions by first identifying some factors and looking back by collecting and analyzing data to explain why the causes can cause something.

Data analysis method

To achieve the objectives of this study and test these hypotheses, we analyzed the collected data, using descriptive analysis and correlation analysis to determine the relationship between the importance of financial reports and stock prices. Standard rental income analysis is used to test the stated hypothesis.

Results And Discussions

Descriptive statistics of the variables

TABLE 2: Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
AUQ	80	0	1	.84	.371
BGD	80	.1000	.4444	.274989	.0916846
BAD	80	.2308	.6667	.458460	.1152829
DEQ	80	.1852	.7668	.460854	.1574742
FSZIZE	80	4.5455	10.4432	7.228570	1.5011985
Valid N (listwise)	80				

Source: SPSS, 2021

Table 4.1 shows that on average, the time in our sample generates an audit stick of approximately 0.498709 and a standard deviation of 0.4977544. the maximum and minimum value of audit stick is 1 and 0 respectively. the standard deviation of 0.4977544 indicates that the data deviate by 0.371 for both groups of the average value. the results of descriptive statistics also show that the mean of company size of the selected period is 7.698704, with a standard deviation of 2.6208473, a minimum value of 3.4553 and 14.5678 as a maximum value. a standard deviation of 2.6208473 means that the data deviates from either side of a mean value of 2.6208473. the results also show that the average lev of the period examined is 1.819633 with a standard deviation of 0.1152829; the minimum value and the maximum value of 1.0567 and 3.8787 respectively. a standard deviation of 0.6547870 means that there is no substantial deviation from the mean. the result also indicates that the prof of the companies in the analyzed group is 0.411663 with a relevant difference of 0.1556382; the minimum and maximum values of 0.1232 and 0.7764 respectively: finally, the result indicates that the average fcomp of the sample companies is 11.690000 with a standard deviation of 10.3997815; the minimum and maximum value of 2.0000 and 45.0000 respectively. A standard deviation of 10.3997815 means that there is no substantial deviation from the mean.

TABLE 3: Correlations

		AUQ	BGD	BAD	DEQ	FSZIZE
AUQ	Pearson Correlation	1				
	Sig. (2-tailed)					
	N	80				
BGD	Pearson Correlation	-.063	1			
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.581				
	N	80	80			
BAD	Pearson Correlation	.057	.175	1		
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.616	.120			
	N	80	80	80		
DEQ	Pearson Correlation	-.131	.414**	.083	1	
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.248	.000	.463		.859
	N	80	80	80	80	80
FSZ	Pearson Correlation	.315**	-.081	-.025	-.020	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.004	.476	.829	.859	
	N	80	80	80	80	80

SPSS, 2021

The results in Table 2 show the degree of correlation between the quality of the audit and all pairs of independent variables individually and with each other and the summation and dependent variable (audit stick) of the study in the selected period (2015-2019). the table shows a positive relationship between audit bar and company size with a correlation coefficient of 0.181, which is not significant at the 5% level of significance. this relationship means that as the audit stick increases, the company size increases for the selected companies. Table 4.2 also shows that there is a positive correlation between audit stick of the selected period and LEV, starting with a correlation coefficient of 0.276 which is significant at the 5% level or not significant. This relationship means that as the audit stick increases,

the fcmp increases significantly. analysis analysis of the relationships between the audit stick based variables and all the independent variables and between the independent variables showed that some are positive and some are negative; however, in order to conclude on the relationship and impact of the dependent variable (audit stick) and a pair of independent variables (firm size, lev, lev and fcmp) of the Nigerian manufacturing industry, the study used regression analysis.

TABLE 4: Multicollinearity Test

VARIABLES	VIF	TOLERANCE
BGD	1.244	0.804
BAD	1.032	0.969
DEQ	1.207	0.829
FIRM SIZE	1.007	0.993

Source: SPSS Output (2021)

The use of the multiple regression test is based on the assumption that there is no significant multi-collinearity between the explanatory variables. Therefore, to verify the existence of multi-collinearity, variance inflation factors (VIF) are calculated for each of the explanatory variables as shown in the table above. The VIF as defined by the table is greater than one (1) and less than ten (10), which is used as a rule of thumb to indicate multi-collinearity issues. Also, the acceptance level of each variable is less than one (1), which is also a number used as a rule of thumb to indicate a multi-collinearity problem. Therefore, these results confirm the absence of multi-collinearity in the research model.

TABLE 5: Regression Result

NPM	Coefficient	T	P-Values
Constants	0.303	1.051	0.297
BGD	0.018	0.036	0.971
BAD	0.241	0.680	0.498
DEQ	-0.312	1.112	0.270
FSZ	0.078	2.898	0.005

R Square = 0.229 significant. = 0.00 e =.446

Source: SPSS Output (2021)

Regression is used to show how much an explanatory variable will affect the explained variable. Table 4.4 above shows that the functional relationship between the dependent variable and the independent variables is:

$$\text{STICK AUDIT} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{ Firm Size} + \beta_2 \text{LEV} + \beta_3 \text{PROF} + \beta_4 \text{FCOMP} + e$$

$$\text{AUDIT BAR} = 0.071 + 0.04 \text{ COMPANY SIZE}_{it} + 0.060 \text{LEV}_{it} + 0.100 \text{PROFIT} + 0.021 \text{FCOMP} + 0.357$$

This means that FIRM SIZE, LEV, PROF and FCOMP have a positive effect on AUDIT STICK. The result also shows that FIRM SIZE, LEV, PROF and FCOMP of the sample stock companies in Nigeria will be able to explain STICK AUDIT to the tune of 0.04, 0.060, 0.100 and 0.021 respectively. Also, the table above shows the result of the regression equation model used to test all the hypotheses stated for this study. The regression result shows that there is a non-significant positive relationship at the 5% significance level between COMPANY SIZE and AUDIT BAR for a sample of consumer goods companies in Nigeria. In addition, PROF has a non-significant positive relationship at the 5% significance level with AUDIT STICK, as shown by the coefficient value, T-value, and P-value of 0.100, 0.313, and 0.100 respectively. This means that a size increase of 0.459 will lead to an increase in STICK AUDIT. Finally, FCOMP has a positive significant relationship at the 5% significance level with AUDIT STICK, as shown by the coefficient value, T value, and P value of 0.021, 4.226, and 0.000 respectively. This means that a size increase of 0.021 will lead to an increase in STICK AUDIT. R² which is a multiple coefficient of determination gives the proportion or proportion of the total variance of the dependent variable explained by the independent variables together.

Conclusion and Findings

External auditors play an important role in corporate governance, which serves as a complementary mechanism to strengthen the legal protection of external shareholders. This in turn will reduce the agency commitment between company insiders and external stakeholders. This study investigates the effect of corporate governance characteristics on the relationship between audit capabilities of listed companies in Nigeria. This study specifically examines the effect of firm characteristics on the intensity of audit fees in Nigerian consumer goods companies between 2015 and 2019. The results of the study show that there is a positive relationship between the variables three independence and the rigidity of the audit fees indebt analysis indicates that out of all the four independent variables, only business sector has a significant relationship with the dependent variable. This means that firm complexity has greater potential to explain the variation in audit fee volatility of the consumer product firms in the sample.

Recommendations

- i. It is instructive to say that an increase in female diversity on the board improves audit quality. Thus, although the percentage of women directors on the board in Nigeria is low, an increase in the number of women on the board can improve the quality of audit.
- ii. Since we observed a positive and non-significant relationship between board age difference and audit quality. It is therefore recommended that the appointment of independent directors to the board of directors of companies based on the track record of these directors in the systems rather

than emphasizing the ratio compared to the total number of former or young directors in consumer products industry. .

- iii. The number of board members with a strong industry background should be increased in consumer goods companies to improve audit quality.

References

- Abbott, L. J., Park, Y., and Parker, S. (2000). The Effects of Audit Committee Activity and Independence on Corporate Fraud. *Managerial Finance* 26 (11): 55-68.
- Abogun, S., Fagbemi, T. O., & Balogun, B. R. (2013). Corporate governance and bank Liquidity : Evidence from selected banks in Nigeria. *Centrepont Journal*, 16(2), 191–204.
- Abogun, S., Fagbemi, T. O., & Balogun, B. R. (2013). Corporate governance and bank Liquidity : Evidence from selected banks in Nigeria. *Centrepont Journal*, 16(2), 191–204.
- Al-Matari, E. M., Al-Matari, Y. A., & Mohammed, S. A. S. (2017). Ownership structure, audit quality and firm performance moderating and direct-effect models: An empirical study. *Corporate Board Role Duties and Composition*, 13(1), 28–35. <https://doi.org/10.22495/cbv13i1p3>
- Alawaqleh, Q. A., & Almasria, N. A. (2021). The Effect of Board of Directors and CEO on Audit Quality: Evidence from Listed Manufacturing Firms in Jordan. *Journal of Asian Finance, Economics and Business*, 8(2), 243–253. <https://doi.org/10.13106/jafeb.2021.vol8.no2.0243>
- Aobdia, D. (2019). Do practitioner assessments agree with academic proxies for audit quality? Evidence from PCAOB and internal inspections. *Journal of Accounting and Economics*, 67(1), 144–174. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jacceco.2018.09.001>
- Arowoshegbe, A., Uniamikogbo, E., & Atu, G. (2017). Accounting Ethics and Audit Quality in Nigeria. *Asian Journal of Economics, Business and Accounting*, 4(2), 1–15. <https://doi.org/10.9734/ajeaba/2017/34826>
- Ayobami, T., & Owolabi, P. S. A. (2020). *Effect of Corporate Governance on Audit Quality in Nigerian*. 2(5), 290–296. *board diversity and audit quality proposal-1*. (n.d.).
- Chalaki, P. (2012). Corporate Governance Attributes and Financial Reporting Quality : Empirical Evidence from Iran. *International Journal of Business and Social Science*, 3(15), 223–229. <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevB.71.174411>
- Damagum, Y. A. U. M., Oba, V. C., Chima, E. I. B., & Ibikunle, J. (2014). Women in corporate Boards and financial reporting credibility : Evidence from Nigeria. *International Journal of Accounting and Financial Management Research*, 4(1), 1–8.
- El-Faitouri, R. (2014). Board of Directors and Tobin's Q: Evidence from U.K.Firms. *Journal of Finance and Accounting*, 2(4), 82–99. <https://doi.org/10.12691/jfa-2-4-2>
- Fama, E. F., & Jensen, M. C. (1983). Corporations and Private Property: A Conference Sponsored by the Hoover Institution. *Journal of Law and Economics*, 26 No. 2(2), 301–325.
- Gul, F. A., & Leung, S. (2004). Board leadership, outside directors' expertise and voluntary corporate disclosures. *Journal of Accounting and Public Policy*, 23(5), 351–379. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaccpubpol.2004.07.001>
- Hassan, S. U., & Farouk, M. A. (2014). Firm Attributes and Earnings Quality of listed Oil and Gas Companies in Nigeria. *Review of Contemporary Business Research*, 3(1), 99–114.
- Hillman, A. J., Withers, M. C., & Collins, B. J. (2009). Resource dependence theory: A review. *Journal of Management*, 35(6), 1404–1427. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0149206309343469>
- IASB. (2018). Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting Conceptual Framework at a glance.

IFRS Conceptual Framework Project Summary, March, 767–785.

- Khan, A. W., & Abdul Subhan, Q. (2019). Impact of board diversity and audit on firm performance. *Cogent Business and Management*, 6(1). <https://doi.org/10.1080/23311975.2019.1611719>
- Khudhair, D. Z., Al-Zubaidi, F. K. A., & Raji, A. A. (2019). The effect of board characteristics and audit committee characteristics on audit quality. *Management Science Letters*, 9(2), 271–282. <https://doi.org/10.5267/j.msl.2018.11.012>
- Manson, S., and Zaman, M. (2001). Auditor Communication in an Evolving Environment: Going Beyond SAS 600 Auditors' Reports of Financial Statements. *The British Accounting Review* 33 (2): 113-136. <https://doi.org/10.35940/ijrte.d8313.118419>
- Modogu, P.K., Ohonba, N., and izedonmi, F. (2012). Challenges of Auditors and Audit Reporting in a Corrupt Environment. *Research Journal of Finance and Accounting*, 3(5):77 – 82.
- Mustapha, U. A., Nik, N., Rashid, M., Lateef, S. A., & Bala, A. (2019). The Effect of Corporate Governance Attributes on Audit Quality in Nigeria. *International Journal of Recent Technology and Engineering*, 8(4), 4882–4886.
- National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD). 2010. *Report of the NACD Blue Ribbon Commission on the Audit Committee*.
- OECD, (2003). Education and training statistics: Principles and recommendation for population and housing censuses, *Revision 1*. New York
- Okafor, C., and Otolor, J.I. (2013). Narrowing the Expectation Gap in Auditing: The Role of the Auditing Profession. *Research Journal of Finance and Accounting*, 4(2): 43 – 52
- Panda, B., & Leepsa, N. M. (2017). Agency theory: Review of theory and evidence on problems and perspectives. *Indian Journal of Corporate Governance*, 10(1), 74–95. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0974686217701467>
- Peecher, M. E. (2006). The Influence of Auditors' Justification Processes on their Decisions: A Cognitive Model and Experimental Evidence. *Journal of Accounting Research* 34 (1): 125-140.
- Saidu, M., & Aifuwa, H. O. (2020). Board Characteristics and Audit Quality: The Moderating Role of Gender Diversity. *SSRN Electronic Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3544733>
- Salaudeen, Y. M., Ibikunle, J., & Chima, E. I. (2015). Unethical Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting Quality: Evidence from Nigeria. *International Journal of Academic Research in Accounting, Finance and Management Sciences*, 5(2). <https://doi.org/10.6007/ijarafms/v5-i2/1689>
- Salehi, M., Moradi, M., & Paiydarmanesh, N. (2017). The effect of corporate governance and audit quality on disclosure quality: Evidence from Tehran stock exchange. *Periodica Polytechnica Social and Management Sciences*, 25(1), 32–48. <https://doi.org/10.3311/PPso.8354>
- Seidel, T. A., Lisic, L. L., Zimmerman, A., & Truelson, J. (2020). Audit Leadership Diversity and Audit Quality. *SSRN Electronic Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3576668>
- Sinclair R., Hooper, K., and Ayoub, S. (2010). Perspectives of Accountability in Charities. *Working paper*.
- Tiurmaida, L. (2018). The effect of Good Corporate Governance and Audit Quality on the Quality of Earning. *Journal of Applied Accounting and Taxation*, 3(1), 89–94.
- Vafeas, N., & Waagelein, J. F. (2007). The association between audit committees, compensation incentives, and corporate audit fees. *Review of Quantitative Finance and Accounting*, 28(3), 241–255. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11156-006-0012-9>
- Zimmerman, A., Seidel, T., Lisic, L. L., & Truelson, J. M. (2020). Audit Leadership Diversity and Audit Quality.