



THE NIGERIAN STATE AND CRUDE OIL BUNKERING IN NIGER DELTA:  
EXAMINING THE ENVIRONMENTAL VULNERABILITY

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ABSTRACT

The exploration and development of the Nigerian oil resource date back to the 1950s. However, it is obvious that such bourgeois activity has not tangibly reflected upon the wellbeing of the people of Niger Delta, who are the immediate host to these oil resources. Hence, this paper evaluates the rising oil bunkering activities in Niger Delta and its effects upon the human environment. Methodologically, the qualitative method of data collection and analysis is adopted. The theoretical framework is based on the Frustration-aggression analysis. We argue that the failure of the Nigerian state to enhance the living conditions of the impoverished region that yields the *golden egg* accounts for the rising oil bunkering activities in the region. Consequently, oil bunkering has further led to rapid depredation of the Niger Delta agricultural land space. We recommend that the Federal Government should implement genuine poverty alleviation schemes and provide social security for the teeming jobless youths in the region.

*Keywords:* Niger Delta, Oil Bunkering, Environmental Criminality.