

**EFFECTS OF SEXUAL IMMORALITY ON ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
OF NCE II STUDENTS OF FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, ZARIA:
ROLES OF ADULT EDUCATORS' TRAINERS**

BY

Sanusi Yusuf:

Department of Adult and Non - Formal Education, Isa Kaita College of Education,
Dutsin - Ma, Katsina State; E-mail:sanusitsiga@gmail.com

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Omoniwa, Femi Adekunle (Ph. D):

Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Federal College of Education, Zaria - Kaduna State;
E-mail: servekorp006@yahoo.co.uk or femmy.omoniwa@gmail.com

Abstract

This research work examined the effects of sexual immorality on academic achievement of NCE II students of Federal College of Education, Zaria: Roles of Adult Educators' Trainers. The intent of this study was to investigate supposed cases of sexual immoral act among NCE II students on their academic achievement. Descriptive survey research design was used in this study. Two (2) objectives and research questions each were formulated in this study. Sole instrument of questionnaire was used in this study for data collection from the respondents who are NCE II students from six (6) different schools in the College. Out of total population of six thousand (6,000) respondents, sample size of three hundred and sixty - one (361) students was used. Frequency count and simple percentages was employed for data collection in this study. The findings of this study revealed that NCE II students of Federal College of Education, Zaria are involved in sexual immoral act for the purpose of academic success. It can be deduced from the outcome of the analysis undertaken that NCE students are not prepared before examination due to reasons best known to them. Also, it was evident from the responses of respondents that absence or poor state of school facilities in Federal College of Education, Zaria enhances their conduct in examination malpractice. The study therefore recommended that Efforts should be made by College authorities to put in place punitive measures to students and lecturers who indulge in immoral sexual act. High standards should be put in place to check all avenues that would spur the system to promote sexual act among the students and live above board academically.

Keywords: *Sexual immorality, Academic achievement, Adult Educators and Trainers*

Introduction

Sexual immorality is a worldwide phenomenon that has permeated every human society especially among its youths. Owing to the bad image it has brought upon the society, it has become a very disturbing issue that everybody has shown deep concern over considering the speed of its occurrence and the associated danger it has brought to many of those addicted. The populations that fall victims to the act are majorly students in various educational institutions including Federal College of Education, Zaria. Today, the act has become the order of the day, girls no longer cherish the dignity of womanhood (Crowe, 2005). While boys have lost control over their emotions; it is thus obvious that the youths of nowadays don't see pre-marital sex as immoral act but usual and normal life style.

One of the typical functions of a healthy human being is the normal sexual operation and drive, however when a young man or woman has come of age they are required to find a marriage partner, settle down and begin to perform one of the most basic task of raising a family. It is a standard practice world over for

a young man to be sexually attracted to a young woman, moreover when it deviate from positive standard to negative, is regarded as perversion. Immorality is thus the violation of certain moral laws, norms or standard of a particular society. As for the family, the living condition which has existed due to poverty doesn't help matters at all. A situation where a couple live in a room with army of grown up children and the couple still continue to have sexual intercourse in their presence. This certainly will increase their sexual urge even at their teen ages, where they learnt some immoral behaviour from their immediate family.

Poor upbringing, moral decadence of the parents without inculcating the ethical value to the children will influence them negatively and expectedly their academic achievement. Dabhoiwala (2012) on his part noted that the evil company of some students who are into cultism, pornography film, smokers, drunkards and sexual activities will propel and initiate the adolescent into sexual immorality. This no doubt was discovered to be responsible for why a good number of students do not complete their secondary school education, while the educational pursuits of some are terminated by unwanted pregnancy, some others are forced into unprepared father and motherhood, many suffered from sexual transmitted diseases (STD) resulting largely into Human Immune Virus (HIV) syndrome.

In all these, sexual immorality exists everywhere in our society and became so worst that one finds it so difficult to get a teenager who is a virgin amongst the girl - child. For this reason, moral value has decline badly, due to its influence of societal cultural values. Agboola and Salawu (2015) stated that immorality in schools can be traced to the interactions of two distinct yet overlapping environmental factors from within and outside schools where students socialize. Generally, immorality in school implies not abiding by the stipulated rules and regulations or guiding students' conducts resulting in deviant behaviours which are multifaceted in nature. This being the case, academic achievement of students who are on teacher training programme is distorted and thus, a danger light on their future career.

As regards their academic achievement, it is generally believed that students learn more when they are interested in what they learn and that will help them achieve better results. However, the term "academic achievement" is best defined as the result of what an individual has learnt from certain educational experiences. In order to determine students' academic achievement, there is the need for a standard of measurement to be adopted. In the light of all these, there has been widespread public outcry against sexual immorality across all Nigerian society, largely in tertiary institutions including Colleges of Education system. This is due to the involvement of teenagers, adolescents, youths and students who should have reframed from it. It was in lieu of this that sexual immorality has become a serious problem and of great concern to parents, religious leaders, school authorities, government in particular and the society in general. Adolescents are known to be an adventurous group, and often engage in risky behaviours such as smoking, drinking alcohol, using drugs, and early unprotected sexual activity (Linbee, 2000). Sexual debut may also lead to emotional problems, such as depression and low self - esteem (Meier, 2007), which could impede school work (Grimm, 2007). Low academic achievement and aspirations have been widely identified as risk factors for early sexual debut in longitudinal studies (Helfand, 2008).

Sexual immorality among students appears to be a reality that cannot be ignored. Several studies revealed that students' sexual immoral activities are on the increase and common in most African schools (Jones and Espey, 2008; Idoko, Muyiwa and Agoha, 2015). Sexual immorality is a sexual activities practiced by persons who are unmarried and it has been considered taboo in some cultures and sin in numerous religion (Stephen and Stephen, 2016). Student's sexual immoral act has resulted into increase cases of unplanned pregnancies, poor academic performance and eventually school dropouts (Mlyakado, 2013). However, studies in Nigeria have not investigated the influence of premarital sexual behaviour on students' academic performance. Most of previous studies in Nigeria have examined factors influencing premarital sexual behaviour and its general effects on students (Adeola, 2014).

The term academic achievement has obviously been defined in different forms by different scholars. To Travers in Isnian (2009), academic achievement refers to the result of what an individual has learnt from some educational experiences. International Observatory on Academic Achievement (IOAA) (2009) refers to academic achievement as the achievement, by an individual, of the objectives related to various types of knowledge and skill which is socially established based on the age, prior learning and capacity of the individuals with regard to education, socialization and qualification. In order to determine pupils' academic achievement, there is the necessity for a standard of measurement. Bell, (2011) notes that success in every academic endeavour is generally measured by actual performance in academic tests, examinations, or continuous assessment, though there is no general agreement on how it is best tested.

Peers may tell a youth that he is missing out in life if he has no sex. Young boys and girls who want to remain chaste are called all sorts of names by their peers and are told all sorts of stories, real or imagined in an attempt to seduce boys and girls to premarital sex. Andrew (1994) gave the following as the cause of premarital sexual relationship: lack of fear of God, economic condition, over desire/ ambition, pressure, curiosity, and electronic media among others. Some factors that can induce adolescent into premarital intercourse include self-image, religious inclinations, socio - economic background, media, family values, peer influence, cultural background among others (Ounjit, 2011). However when adolescents tend to abstain from or postpone sexual intercourse, the support from individuals, adult members of the family and teachers may be necessary to ward off peer, media and other societal pressures as adolescents who receive such support take decisions that are less-risky or risk - free (Ounjit, 2011).

One of the primary motivations for adolescents is their desire to fit in with their peers (DeCew, 1996). Adolescents who perceive their friends or peers to be sexually active are likely to engage in sexual activity themselves as well as have multiple sex partners (Moore and Chase - Lansdale, 1999; WHO, 2003). The effects of sexual immorality are both on the individual and the society. As for these perilous times; young teenagers are jam - packed with voluminous information about immorality, especially once it concerns sex related issues. The value and moral standards which were implemented for years past; norms and ethics are ignored by many. Teaching on sexual purity before and after marriage is no longer available for the youths as God ideal and goal to strive. Sexual freedom is widespread as norm among teenagers and adults.

Objectives of the Study

The objective of this study was to investigate the effects of sexual immorality on academic achievement of NCE II students of Federal College of Education, Zaria: Roles of Adult Educators' Trainers. In specific terms, the study intends to:

1. Find out the likely cause(s) of sexual immorality among NCE II students of Federal College of Education, Zaria with its attendant effects on academic achievement.
2. Investigate the effects of sexual immorality among NCE II students of Federal College of Education, Zaria with its attendant effects on academic achievement.

Research Questions

The following research questions were formulated to guide this study:

1. What is the likely cause(s) of sexual immorality among NCE II students of Federal College of Education, Zaria with its attendant effects on academic achievement?
2. Of what effects is sexual immorality among NCE II students of Federal College of Education, Zaria with its attendant effects on academic achievement?

Methodology

In this study, descriptive survey research design was adopted. The population for this study was made up of all NCE II students of Federal College of Education, Zaria. Male students' population is put at two thousand, eight hundred (2,800) and that of female students' population is three thousand, five hundred

and fifty (3,550) (Examination Office - Curriculum Department, 2022). Sample size for this study was three hundred and sixty - one (361) students selected at random from target population of six thousand, three hundred and fifty (6,350). Out of this figure, one hundred and fifty - nine (159) were male NCE II students and another, two hundred and two (202) female NCE II students. For the purpose of data collection in this study, the researcher designed instrument of structured questionnaire was considered. The questionnaire was tagged "Students' Questionnaire on effect of sexual immorality on academic achievement of NCE II students in Federal College of Education, Zaria (SQESIAA) and consisted of four (4) sections namely A, B, C and D respectively. The data collected for this study was analyzed using descriptive statistics such as mean and standard deviation. The entire analyses were analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS vers 17).

Results

Research Question One: What is the likely cause(s) of sexual immorality among NCE II students of Federal College of Education, Zaria with its attendant effects on academic achievement?

Table 1: Respondents' opinions on the likely cause(s) of sexual immorality on academic achievement among NCE II students of Federal College of Education, Zaria

S/N	Item Statements	Strongly agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean
		Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	
	Conducive learning environment enhances high students' academic performance in their respective school subjects.	50	32.9	40	26.3	30	19.7	32	21.1	3.15
	Most public school environment are not so conducive for learning hence poor performance by students.	47	30.9	45	29.6	38	25.0	22	14.5	2.63
	The least aspect of the school which authorities spent money on, is the learning environment.	40	26.3	38	25.0	52	34.2	22	14.5	2.81
	Learning environment with no essential facilities will have low performance rate recorded by her students.	45	29.6	30	19.7	45	29.6	32	21.1	2.70
	Learning environment in most public schools are same, hence the likelihood of having same record of performance by students.	30	19.7	45	29.6	40	26.3	33	21.7	2.64
	Few standard schools owned by the government do not even perform above expectation from other sub standard ones.	34	22.4	30	19.7	40	26.3	48	31.6	2.37
Aggregate mean score										2.80

Information from the above table 1 depicts the opinions of respondents on the impact of learning environment on students' academic achievement in public secondary schools of Zaria Local Government Area. The highest mean value of 3.15 was recorded after the respondents agreed that conducive learning environment enhances high students' academic performance in respective school subjects. Next to this, was that of mean value of 2.81 where the respondents disagreed that the least aspect of the school which authorities spent money on, is the learning environment. About 2.64 of the study respondents believed learning environment in most public schools are same, hence the likelihood of having same record of performance by students. The lowest mean value of 2.37 concurred that few standard schools owned by the government do not even perform above expectation from other sub standard ones. In one way or another, learning environment is great effect on the academic performance of students in secondary schools of the study locality.

Research Question Two: Of what effects is sexual immorality among NCE II students of Federal College of Education, Zaria with its attendant effects on academic achievement?

Table 2: Respondents' opinions on the effects of sexual immorality on academic achievement of NCE II students in Federal College of Education, Zaria

S/N	Item Statements	Strongly agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Mean
		Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	
	Library enhances the reading culture among students in the various subject areas.	47	30.9	45	29.6	38	25.0	22	14.5	3.15
	Poor electricity supply to schools for practical activities by students no doubt affects their performances.	50	32.9	40	26.3	30	19.7	32	21.1	2.63
	Schools with sporting facilities help a lot to enhance social interaction among students and to freely discuss with one another on how best to do well in their studies.	38	25.0	48	31.6	30	19.7	36	23.7	2.81
	Standard labouratory facilities are absent in public schools hence lack of confidence by most students to pursue courses in sciences.	34	22.4	30	19.7	40	26.3	48	31.6	2.70
	Social amenities to all public schools are shadow of itself, hence the difficulty by students to learn what they ought to have learnt.	50	32.9	40	26.3	30	19.7	32	21.1	2.64
	Public schools with standard facilities produces brilliant and result oriented students.	34	22.4	30	19.7	40	26.3	48	31.6	2.37
Aggregate mean score										2.80

The table above had examined the impact school facilities have on academic performance of students in public schools of the study locality. These facilities are library, labouratory, recreation and other social amenities which have aided students' performance in and out of school in one way or another. This was because the respondents' cumulative mean response of 2.80 is higher than the 2.500 standard/decision mean. Specifically, they asserted that library enhances the reading culture among students in the various subject areas. This view attracted the highest mean response of 3.15 with details showing that 92 of the respondents are in agreement with this view as against the rest of 60 who disagreed. Also, respondents agreed that schools with sporting facilities help a lot to enhance social interaction among students and to freely discuss with one another on how best to do well in their studies. This view attracted the second highest mean agreement of 2.81 with 86 in agreement as against the rest of 66 that disagreed. In summary, school facilities no doubt improve academic performance among the public secondary school students in the study area.

Discussion

A lot of roles are expected to be performed by adult educators' trainers at the teacher training institutions in the Country. Considering that adult education as a programme of study cannot be successfully implemented on the learners without the trainers. It therefore behoves of the trainers to help the learners who are parents to others to understand better the responsibilities place before them, what is expected of them to do and how or when to do so. Illiteracy being the bane of underdevelopment for most parents hence the need for adult education would go along way in helping them to address issues of sexual immoral acts which are daily confronting our diverse communities.

In specific terms, beneficiary of adult education would be able to identify causes of sexual immorality, category of people involved and what to do. This is so especially as most people engaged in such acts are directly related to these adults and because of their low level education. They hardly think of what to do

to avert its consequences which may not be now but later in life. A teacher should therefore have an in-depth knowledge of the subject matter he/ she wants to teach this category of learners to further help them in their families and careers (Butin, 2004). Similarly, the teacher should have the technical skills without which he or she cannot pass across the required knowledge to the students (Airansian, 1991). A function of this is when teachers see themselves as developmental in nature and not merely to impart knowledge (Butin, 2004). The tasks the teacher has to face include rendering direct assistance to individual student by helping the students to better understand the lesson contents. The teacher is also expected to improve the general class through group assignments and discussions (Rockoff, 2004).

Conclusion

Sexual immoral act do more harm than good to those who are involved especially among the students. It is thus a social menace that should be tamed from the bud otherwise the future of the younger generation who are expected to be leaders of tomorrow will be more disastrous than one could ever imagined. All hands are therefore expected to be on deck as is not one man business but a collective efforts to address this ugly situation before too late.

Recommendations

Based on the findings from the analyzed data, the researcher recommended as follows:

1. Efforts should be made by College authorities to put in place punitive measures to students and lecturers who indulge in immoral sexual act.
2. High standards should be put in place to check all avenues that would spur the system to promote sexual act among the students and live above board academically.

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