THE PLACE OF THE LIBRARY IN ENHANCING NATIONAL SECURITY, UNITY AND PEACE IN NIGERIAN TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

BY

GBARO, GABRIELINE ONYEDIKACHI Ph.D

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE UNIT INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY, ABRAKA

Abstract

The study investigated the place of library and information science in enhancing national securty, unity and peace in Nigeria tertiary institutions for sustainble development. The descriptive survey research design, expost facto in nature was adopted. The population consisted 9115 respondents; from the Faculty of Education, Delta State University, Abraka and her study centers of Colleges of Education Agbor and Warri in the 2019/2020 session.5% of the population which is 1,823 was randomly chosen as the sample. A self-designed questionnaire was the instrument used titled "Roles of Librarians in curbing insecurities questionnaire (RLCIQ)". The purpose of the study was to investigate on the causes of, the common security challenges and the roles of the academic libaries in curbing the security challenges in the Nigerian tertiary institutions. Three research questions guided the Study. Data were analyzed using mean scores and standard deviations. The study revealed that information is an inevitable tool in the sustenance of security and, in the tertiary institutions, the library's role in disseminating information is inevitable. Recommendations were made which include having a synergy with the library and the stakeholders in the tertiary institutions especially the security personnel to ensure sustainable development.

Introduction

Security is the condition of not being threatend. A nation is a group of people sharing aspects of kingship, culture and ethnicity. Unity refers to oneness, and peace is a state of tranquility, quiet and harmony, free of oppressive and unpleasant thoughts and emotions, also free of war (Procter, 2002). National security then is the ability to preserve the nation's plysical integrity and territory,

to maintain its economic relation with the rest of the world on reasonable terms, to preserve its national institutions and governance from disruption from outside, and to control its borders (Brown, 2013). Also, Ossai (2013) sees National Security as the requirement to maintain the survival of the state. In the same vein, Pateri (2013) opined that national security is the capacity of a nation to overcome the multidimensional threats to the well being of its people and its survival as a nation state at a given time. For sustainable development of any nation, national security is inevitable. This is why sustainable development has been described as the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs. (https://en.m.wikipediaorg.wiki).

The sustainable development concept was first highlighted in the 1970s. it is the responsibility of every member of a given society and cuts across all strata of the society.

Nevertheless, national security for sustainable development encompasses a broad range of facets such as economic, social, political, environmental, education and others. It borders on the very existence and sovereignty of the nation hence it cannot be overlooked. But the focus of this study is on education. Education is the process of imparting knowledge which can be in form of skills and ideas. It can be formal or informal. When it is formal, it means that it has been imparted from the school through subjects taught. And one of these subjects is Library and information science. Library and Information science is a generic term concerned with gathering, manipulating, storing retrieving and classifying recorded information and is now offered in tertiary institutions as a course of study. One institution involved in information handling are libraries which are institutions responsible for the collection processing and storage of recorded, knowledge. Libraries found in tertiary institutions are called Academic libraries.

the sustenance of security and, in the tertiary institutions, the library's role in disseminating information is inevitable. Recommendations were made which

Security can be seen as a social contact between the state and its citizens in which the state is expected to protect, defend and provide for the citizens in the public area. There is no doubt that Nigeria as a nation has been be-clouded with insecurity challenges leading to the breakdown of peace and unity which has threatened the peaceful co-existence of the nation. Insecurity can be linked like a virus, slowly eating its way into the system of the country and the tertiary institutions are not left out. There are cases of Yahoo, (Advanced fee Fraud) popularly called Yahoo in Nigeria, prostitution, cultism to mention but a few. All these have stagnated national development to the extent that there is no sustainable development. To curb these menace, information is needed. And this information

118,

is found in our libraries whether national, public, special, academic and school libraries. In the tertiary institutions, this information is well organized in academic libraries. The university authorities, academic and non-academic staff, the University community and the students cannot do without information and this is why this study is set to investigate the place of library and information science in enhancing national security in tertiary institutions in Nigeria.

results to insecurity which are manifested through revenue sharing, deprivation among school unions like students union government (SUCybut2 antions like students union government (SUCybut2 antions)

The study is set to achieve these purposes.

HILL AND DER SI DER SI TO - LIZE - III

- a. Investigate the common security challenges in Nigerian tertiary Institutions.
 - b. Highlight on the causes of the security challenges in Nigerian tertiary Institutions.
- c. Examine the roles of academic libraries in cuibing these security challenges in Nigerian tertiary Institutions.

abnord to summulate adiastrable of slagrania of the intraction of frends

pressures. This bas led many of them to be lured into some actions like cultism.

Research Questions

The following research questions are postulated for the study.

- a. What are the common security challenges in Nigerian tertiary Institutions?
- b. What are the causes of the security challenges in Nigerian tertiary Institutions?
- c. What are the roles of the academic libraries in curing these security challenges in Nigerian tertiary Institutions?

employed house girls take care of the childrein.

Literature Review

Common Security Challenges in Tertiary Institutions

The purpose of any educational centre is to train, teach and develop the individuals through knowledge acquisitions, so that the individual can become a social being. But the school system has been known to face some security challenges especially the tertiary institution. Some of these security challenges as reported by Omoni (2013) are manifested in cultism, gangsterism, rape, vandalism, intimidation, bullying, destruction and stealing of school properties, arson, truancy, organized rape, prostitution, exam malpractice, abduction, rudeness, fighting, physical harm

to victims, rumor mongering, love for money and material wealth, political and ethnic sectionalism, use of dangerous weapons such as knives, guns, bombs and other artifices.

Similarly, Oghuvbu (2013) also opines that organized violence is also a type of security challenge among undergraduates and they include secret cults, and political thuggery. He noted that there is also economic based violence which results to insecurity which are manifested through revenue sharing, deprivation among school unions like students union government (SUG), Departmental and Faculty unions. Obaro, (2019) also opined that yahoorism (advanced fee fraud) a situation where the young undergraduates are involved in illegal means of making money, is now common in all tertiary institutions, and this quest for fast money is a serious security challenge because it has led to kidnapping, abducting and rituals using their fellow students.

Causes of the Security Challenges in Nigerian Tertiary Institutions

There are reports of bizarre and monster like crimes carried out in tertiary institutions. Most of them are caused by peer group influence. Omoni (2013) reported that many undergraduates are vulnerable to the influence of friends. Obaro (2019) supported her when she wrote that we are in a time when most children enter the tertiary institutions between the ages of 15 and 18. And by the virtue of their ages, most of them lack the will power to resist peer group pressures. This has led many of them to be lured into some actions like cultism, stealing, rape, truancy, exam malpractice etc.

Azuka (2019) also has the opinion that poor parental supervision and child rearing practices has its place. Many parents, she noted are more interested in making money. They leave their children in the care of wards. Supporting the above claim, Obaro (2019) reported that we are now in the season where wards, nannies, employed house girls take care of the children.

Some of these children grow up perfecting nefarious activities. There are also cases, where some parents put pressure and encourage their children to engage in negative activities like yahoo, prostitution and kidnapping. All these culminate into security challenges. Extreme exposure to violent and obscene films has been reported by Agunlana as far back as 2006 that when students watch actors engage in violent activities, they try to emulate them. Relating to this is Information and communication Technology (ICT). The Internet has been described as the second wonder of the world after electricity. The Internet and android phones are supposed to be a blessing to humanity, but recent studies have shown that obscene

violence and pornographic films are sourced from the internet using Android phones and this has negatively influenced the youths leading to rape, prostitution, fighting et constituting in security clateln ges among youths.

Summarisingly, the kind of childhood someone had, past traumas, recent experiences of failure, rejection, loneliness,. Social anxiety, negative beliefs, perfectionism, having a critical parent/ partner, poor school administration, political godfatherism are among the vices that can cause security challenges in tertiary institutions.

The Role of the Library In Curbing Insecurity Challenges

Libraries are organized collections of sources of information and similar resources made accessible to a defined community for reference and borrowing. (Obaro, 2019). Academic libraries are libraries found in tertiary institutions, and modern academic libraries have gone further to provide digital access to materials and their collections even in the electronic format.

Libraries therefore provide information for the school management, governing council members, academic and non-academic staff, and also students. This information is stored in data bases and can be retrieved at will to solve challenges. Libraries also provide serene environment for reading. Reading enlightens and informs. And an enlightened and informed individual will not get involved in security problems. Similarly, the library is regarded as the heart of the intellectual system, and to a large extent, the quality of any tertiary institution is measured by the services provided by its library. These services include, current awareness services (CAS), selective dissemination of information (SDI), enlightenment campaign using display boards, handbills and even social media. At admission, students are given orientation; library orientation should be robustly prepared to include security challenges. The library should also have a synergy with the departments, faculties, and even security units on the security challenges of the tertiary institutions. Chanum, Beetseh, Ilo, and Idachaba (2014) have the views that in libraries, students will find information that will guide them, help promote peace, unity, progress, their peaceful co-existence and harmonious relationship among their fellow students which at the long run will curtail insecurity.

Research Methodology

The study adopted a descriptive survey, expost facto design. The population of the study consisted of 9115 respondents, drawn from the Faculty of Education, Delta State University, Abraka and its study centres at Colleges of Education Agbor and Warri in the 2019/2020 session as illustrated.

Faculty of Education

Delsu Abraka 5,785

College of Education, Agbor Delsu Study Center 1,625

College of Education - Warri Delsu Study Warri Center 1,705

Total 9115

Five percent (5%) of the population were chosen as the sample through the random sampling techniques which is -1823 respondents. The reason for the selection of these respondents is their homogeneity. They have the same curriculum and are awarded the same degree by the same body.

Instrument

A researcher developed questionnaire was used as instrument titled "Roles of Libraries in Curbing Insecurity Questionnaire (RLCIQ)" it was divided into three (3) sections with 22,13 and 15 statement items each. It was face validated by three (3) experts from the Faculty of Education Delta State University, Abraka. A pretest reliability was carried out using 20 students from the Faculty of Arts, Delta State University, Abraka. The data collected were subjected to Cronbach alpha and it yielded co-efficient value of 0.80 which was considered reliable. The questionnaire was structured in a 4 point likert scale of strongly agreed (SA) 4 points, Agreed (A) 3 points, Disagreed (D) 2 points and Strongly disagreed (SD) I point.

Means and standard deviations were used to analyze the data. The mean scores of 2.50 and above were accepted responses, while those below 2.50 were rejected. The researcher personally administered the instruments with her research assistants and 100%

response rate was achieved. Below is the analysis of data.

Results

Research question 1

What are the common security challenges in Nigerian tertiary institutions?

Table 1: The Common Security Challenges Facing Nigerian Tertiary Institutions.

S/N	Items	SA	A	SD	D	Mean	Std	Remarks
1	Cultism	1130	620	70	03	3.58	0.7	Accepted
2	Gangsterism	1110	230	320	163	3.25	0.06	Accepted
3	Rape	800	700	200	123	3.19	0.06	Accepted
4	Vandalism	900	750	102	71	3.36	0.06	Accepted
5	Intimidation	850	770	150	53	3.33	0.06	Accepted
6	Bullying	870	800	153		3.39	0.06	Accepted
7	Destruction of school properties	950	790	80	03	3.47	0.06	Accepted
8	Stealing of school properties	980	750	70	23	3.47	0.07	Accepted
9	Arson	700	600	400	123	3.03	0.07	Accepted
10	Truancy	1150	500	100	73	3.50	0.07	Accepted
11	Organized rape	930	650	200	43	3.35	0.05	Accepted
12	Prostitution	1400	300	100	23	3.69	0.08	Accepted
13	Exam malpractice	1200	400	150	73	3.50	0.06	Accepted
14	Abduction	1250	430	120	23	3.59	0.08	Accepted
15	Rudeness	1150	525	80	68	3.51	0.07	Accepted
16	Fighting	1090	480	212	41	3.44	0.07	Accepted
17	Rumour mongering	1200	500	100	23	3.58	() () 7	ASSESSED FOR
18	Love for money	1500	300	23	-	3.80	U.U.I	And the second
19	Yahoorism	1823	-		-	4.00	0.07	Acceptant
20	Bad company	900	750	102	71	3.36	0.07	Acceptud
21	Political thuggery	1400	216	198	09	3.65	0.08	Accepted
22	Misappropriation of funds	1305	419	80	19	3.65	0.08	Accepted

From the data above, the common security challenges facing Nigerian tertiary institutions among other things include: advanced fee fraud popularly called yahoo, love for money, prostitution, political thuggery, misappropriation of funds, abduction, rumor mongering to mention but a few.

Research question 2

What are the causes of the security challenges in Nigeria tertiary Institutions?

Table 2: The Causes of the Security Challenges Facing Nigerian Tertiary Institutions.

S/N	Items	SA	A	SD	D	Mean	Std	Remarkal
1	Peer group	1500	300	23		3.81	0.05	Accepteos
2	Poor parental supervision	1400	300	100	23	3.69	0.08	Acceptede
3	Employment of wards, nannies house helps	900	750	101	72	3.36	0.07	Accepted
4	Exposure to obscene films	1600	200	23		3.85	0.05	Accepteos
5	ICT	1620	203			3.89	0.02	Accepted
6	Use of Android phones	1800	23			3.99	0.02	Accepteo
7	Internet	1803	21			3.99	0.02	Accepteo
8	Past traumas	900	600	2.00	123	3.35	0.06	Accepted
9	Recent experiences	700	72.0	300	103	3.11	0.06	Accepteo
10	Rejections	800	600	223	200	3.10	0.06	Accepted
11	Loneliness	900	670	212	41	3.33	0.06	Accepted
12	Negative beliefs	604	808	218	193	3.00	0.06	Accepted
13	Critical parents	720	750	260	93	3.15	0.05	Accepted
14	Poor school administration	875	820	123	05	3.41	0.07	Accepted
15	Political Godfatherism	730	740	215	138	3.13	0.06	Accepted

From the data collected, the causes of security challenges in Nigerian tertiary institutions includes: the use of Internet and android phones, ICT, exposure to obscene films, peer group influence and poor parental supervision.

Research Question 3

What are the roles of the Academic library in curbing these security challenges in Nigeria tertiary Institutions?

Table 3: The Roles of the Academic Library in Curbing These Security Challenges in Nigeria Tertiary Institutions.

S/N	Items	SA	A	SD	D	Mean	Std	Remarks
1	Retrieving information using university data base	1112	630	81		3.57	0.04	Accepted
	Serene e nvironment for reading	1550	273			3.87	0.02	Accepted
3	Creating awareness	1350	430	23	20	3.71	0.08	Accepted
4	Selective dissemination of Information (SDI)	1425	320	38	40	3.72	0.08	Accepted
	Current awareness services (CAS)	1600	135	50	38	3.81	0.08	Accepted
	Orientation on what the library can		100	23		3.92	0.05	Accepted
	Disseminating of information through display boards hand bills etc.		820	123	05	3.41	0.05	Accepted
8	Social media	900	600	202	121	3.25	0.05	Accepted
9	Synergy with security operatives	1520	205	98		3.78	0.06	Accepted
10	Synergy with faculties and departments.	1 1203	417	190	13	3.54	0.07	Accepted

Also from the data collected, the role of the academic library in curbing security challenges in Nigerian tertiary institutions in dude: orientation of the students in what the library can do, the provision of a stere environment for reading, provisions of CAS, synergy with security operatives, provision of SDI and generally creating security awareness to the students.

Discussion

The study revealed the common security challenges in tertiary institutions as yahoo, love for money, prostitution, political thuggery, revenue sharing, abduction, cultism, rumor mongering, rudness, truancy, exam mabractice, to mention but a few. These challenges are very evident in our tertiary institutions. No wonder, Azuka (2019) wrote "the menace of yahoo boys is a virus that must be gotten rid of by the Nigerian government". Their menace has led to political thuggery. Competitive prostitution for the girls, abducting and kidnapping students for rituals and forming themselves into a cult. All these are for the love of money. Because they have money, so they become truants and most of them indulge in examination malpractices simply because they pay then ways through with threats. There are no doubt's therefore that these factors are security challenges.

The data also collected showed that the use of Android phones, information communication technology and the Internet, also exposure to obscene films, peer group, poor parenting and poor school supervision are the remote causes of these security challenges. Supporting these claims, Edekarabo (2018) in his paper raised questions:- why do Nigerians turn blessings to crises.? He continued when he wrote, technology, internet and Android phones are supposed to be blessings but they are now posing security changes as students use them to commit despicable acts which pose as security challenges.

Writing on the roles libraries can play in curbing these security challenges, the data showed conducting library orientation for fresh students as a very effective method. Others include providing a secure environment for reading, current awareness services (CAS) using the social media and other means to disseminate information, building a synergy between the library and the various departments, faculties and even the school security department will also be helpful. These facts were buttressed by Obi (2018) who carried out a campaign titled "catch them young". I agree to this assertion because when the students come as new students, they work with the information they receive which will go a long way in their academic journey thus reducing insecurity challenge.

Similarly, Obaro (2019) advocated for the use of CAS and SDI in disseminating information also display boards in schools and handbills. She also advocated for the use of the social media especially the Whatsapp and Facebook (FB) which are common, cheap and the widest information carrier now.

Conclusion

The study showed the common security challenges facing Nigerian tertiary institutions as advanced fee fraud, prostitution, love for money etc. The causes of these security challenges are linked to ICT, the use of the Internet and Android phones, and to curb these security challenges, it was recommended that there should be a synergy between the university and university security operatives, and most importantly, fresh students should go through an orientation programme. There is no doubt that peace, unity and safety is a precondition for learning and every student especially the undergraduate is entitled to a safe and caring learning environment. But based on the present day reality, it is evident that security challenges is a major threat in tertiary institutions and has affected global development for sustainable development. Therefore, all hands should be on deck. The security operatives in the school should walk hand in hand with the school authority to ensure that everywhere is secured for the students and staff.

Recommendations

From the study, the following recommendations were made;

- 1. Tertary institutions should organize library orientation for fresh students at inception and it should be made compulsory.
- 2. All members of the university community should be linked to the University data base.
- 3. There should be a synergy between the library and the entire university community, the departments, faculties and even the university's security operatives on security challenges.
- 4. Parents are also adjudged to train their children and not leave the m in the hands of wards.

References

- Agulana, G.G. (2006). Stemming the global culture of violence: Implications for Education, unpublished paper presented at the international conference of Nigeria Association for Educational Administration and planning, University of Uyo.
- Azuka, C.C. (2016). The youths and insecurity. The life line 3(2) pp.77-80.
- Brown, H. (2013). National security. Retrieved 25th of march 2020 from http/enwikipedia/org/wiki/national security.
- Chorum, M.T. Beetseh; K., Ilo, H. Idachaba, J.D (2014). The role of Nigerian and Libraries in curbing terrorism and ensuring national security. Journal of research and method in Education. 4(6).
- Edekarabor, S.E. (2017). Roles of libraries in insecurities. The library Axis 3(4) pp35-40..
- Obaro, G.O. (2013) Library Security challenges and control measures: A case study of two academic libraries in South-South Nigeria. Research in education (1) 161-164.
- Obaro, G.O. (2019). Relevance of librarians and libraries in Educational research for sustainable development in Nigeria. Benue state University. Journal of education p(BSUJE) 19(3) pp 94-101.
- Obi, H.N. (2017) Catch them young. A campaign for reading. The axis 8(2) pp 16-19.
- Oghuvbu, E.P. (2013) Quality and security in Nigerian schools. Research in education 19(1) pp.5-9.
- Omoni, E.G. (2013). School safety methods and the reduction of insecurity syndrome in Nigerian secondary schools: Counseling implications. Research in Education 19(1) pp10-16.
- Ossai, A.U.P (2013) Utilization of scores from affective equalities and its implication to National Security. Research in education 19(1) pp.49-73.
- Paleri, P. (2010). National security importance and challenge. New Delhi; Helpers.
- Procter, P. (2002). Cpambridge International dictionary of English. New York, Cambridge University Press.





