Perception of Female Science Students on Rating and Curbing Social Vices in Colleges of Education

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Abstract

This study was carried to determine the Perception of female science Students on rating and curbing of social vices in College of Education. The study employed descriptive survey research design. The sample comprised of 100 students from College of Education (Technical) Lafiagi and College of Education, Ilorin. The instrument used for data collection was researcher designed questionnaire "College of Education female science students' rating and curbing of social vices in the society" which consisted of ten items on types of social vices for rating and ten items' questions for curbing social vices in the society. The data collected from the respondents was analysed using mean, standard deviation t-test and Analysis of variance *(one way ANOVA). The finding revealed that there was no significant difference in the students' perceptions of curbing of social vices in the society based on their age, level and subject combination. It is therefore recommended that all social vices ranked common by the students should be curbed by using all the ways of curbing presented to the respondents in this study. Also, the three variables should not be considered when curbing the social vices.*

Keywords: Social vices, Rating, Curbing, Perception, Female, Science.

Introduction

Education prepares people for active engagement in life for personal and social responsibility or respectability in the society. In like manner, educational systems have the ability to deliver the goals of education of turning youths away from social vices and make them responsible citizens (Nwabufo & Joshua, 2015). Therefore, the significance of education today in the society cannot be over stated because education confronts some of today's most difficult and challenging issues in the society. Education is one of the appropriate means of curbing social vices, therefore the role of academicians is highly necessary especially the science teachers. This is because they are saddled with responsibility of providing effective education.

The rate at which social vices increases in the society is very high, which call for continuous attention until they are completely eradicated by all possible means. Social vices are all forms of evil, wicked and criminal actions or behaviours in the society. According to Jacob and Athanius

(2019), Social vices are deviant behaviours such as illicit sex, drug addiction, evil or immoral behaviour such as murder, examination malpractice, thuggery and such other

criminal tendencies. Social vices are behaviour that disapproved direction to such a degree that may exceed the tolerance limit of the society and also as vices that affects large number of people in adverse manner (Nwabufo & Joshua, 2015).

Social vices are now becoming national and global issues by negatively affecting the society. Social vices cut across every aspect in the society such as ethnic, nationalities, races and even religion. Social vices include examination malpractices, indecent dressing, sex trade, drug abuse, cultism, gambling, internet fraud, assassinations, smoking, political thuggery, armed robbery and pipe line vandalism which are common among the youths. Social vices are extremely bad immoral behaviours that affect the societal norms, morals and ethic. In other word, they could be regarded as a 'thorn' in flesh of human peace and tranquillity, because these vices make life very uncomfortable for the people in the society (George & Ukpong, 2013), Omonijo, Nnedum, Fadugba, Uche & Biereenu, 2013). The social vices have been observed to occur at different rate in the society (Anele and Don-Solomon 2017) which is being measured by making use of rating scale such as likert scale.

In order to find lasting solution to the social vices in the society researchers have identified various ways in curbing social vices in the society, such as proper upbringing, close monitoring, behavioural control of a child, teaching moral values, teaching God words, proper discipline from the parent, school authorities and teachers and enlighten the public about the danger of social vices in the society (George & Ukpong, (2013); Omonijo et al, (2013), Nwabufo & Joshua, (2015)). With the submission of these researchers, the present study deems it fit to investigate the perceptions of common social vices in the society and the ways to prevent it. Rating according to Collins dictionary (2022) is classification based on grade or rank. Since there is the belief that social vices are of different rate investigation of their level of occurrence in the society also called for attention.

Knowing the social vices and their effect may prompt the students to do away with them. Hence, when the students have idea of what can be done to eradicate the menace called social vices in the society; the students may employ these means to do away with the evil behaviour in the society and this result to investigation of the students' perception of social vices in the society. Perception is the act of knowing what to operate about particular concepts. This includes positive and negative things related to the concepts. According to Lumen (2020) perception is the means of organizing interpreting and experiencing of sensory information which can either be bottom-up or top-down processing of information. That is, perception can be gotten from sensory input which is known as bottom-up processing or gaining understanding from experiences, knowledge, and idea known as top-down processing. This means that perception is possible through past experience (top-down) or making use of sensory input (bottom-up). Hence, the perception of students on how to curb

social vices can be described as top-down because their being aware of types of social vices may likely give them the idea of how to curb the vices.

Investigation of students' perceptions as regard how to curb social vices required the consideration of some students' variables such as age, grade level and subject combinations because these variables may influence their perceptions of how to curb the social vices. This is thought so, as researchers who carried out studies on perceptions had also considered some of these students' variables. For instance, Brok, Fisher and Rickards (2006) investigated factors affecting Australian students' perceptions of their science teachers' interpersonal behavior putting into consideration variables such as gender, class size and subject. Also, Adedoja (2016) investigated influence of age and educational qualification on stake holders' perception of integrating mobile technology into basic education in Nigeria. Hence, investigation of the students' perception of how to curb social vices called for consideration of the students' variable for effective outcome.

Statement of the Problem

Social vices are bad behaviours that affect the peace of the society. Hence, it demands serious attention of concerned people in the society such as the academicians in order to eradicate the menace for the society to maintain peaceful living. It is as a result of this, that researchers have documented series of studies on the causes of social vices, the effect in the society, and how to eradicate them in the society. As far as this study is concern majority of these studies were not empirical in nature except that of Busuyi, Olayinka and Olalekan (2016), carried out their study on social vices and the effect of cultism activities among university undergraduates of Ekiti state university. The finding revealed that causes of social vices are peer group influence, parental influence, to feel high, to be protected and secured, to gain power and leisure. Also, Anele and Don-Solomon (2017) carried out their study on the manager's rating of managerial skills considered necessary for success of small and medium enterprises for curbing social vices in Rivers and Bayelsa states. The result revealed that managerial skills were considered highly necessary by the managers for the success of small and medium enterprises for curbing social vices. Their studies were carried out involving university students and entrepreneurs but the present study was carried out involving college of Education female students and variables such as age, grade level and subject combination of the respondents were put into consideration. This is thought to be necessary since college of Education students are expected to lay educational foundation of students for progressive future learning.

Purpose of the Study

The major purpose of this study was to investigate the female Science Students' rating and curbing of social vices in colleges of Education. Specifically, the study seeks to:

1. Determine the rating of social vices in the society.
2. Investigate the perception of the students on how to curb social vices in the society.
3. Determine influence of age group on students' perceptions on how to curb social vices in the society.
4. Determine influence of grade level on students' perceptions on how to curb social vices in the society.
5. Determine influence of subject combination on students' perception on how to curb social vices in the society.

Research Questions

The following research questions were formulated to guide the study:

1. What are the ratings of social vices in the society by the students?
2. What are the perceptions of students' on how to curb social vices in the society
3. Does age group influence students' perceptions on how to curb social vices in the society?

4. Does grade level influence students' perceptions on how to curb social vices in the society.
5. Does subject combination influence students' perception on how to curb social vices in the society.

Research Hypothesis

The following research hypotheses were tested in the study:

1. There is no significant difference in the students' perceptions of curbing of social vices in the society based on their age group
2. There is no significant difference in the students' perceptions of curbing of social vices in the society based on their grade level.
3. There is no significant difference in the students' perception of how to curb social vices in the society based on their subject combination.

Methodology

This study is descriptive research of the survey type. Descriptive research report things as they are being found and since this is what is expected of this study this is thought to be appropriate according to Cohen, Manion and Morrison (2011). One hundred students of College of Education (Technical) Lafiagi and College of Education Ilorin were involved in the study. The students were N.C.E 1and N.C.E II students from school of science in the colleges studying different combinations of science such as Biology/Chemistry, Biology/Integrated science, Biology/ Computer etc. The instrument for the study is researcher designed questionnaire known as Female Science Students' rating and curbing of social vices tagged FSSRCS. The instrument have three sections, section A, bio data, which consist of such as age, grade level and subject combination Section B and C which consists of 10 items each of types of social vices and perception of students on how to curb social vices in the society respectively with five point Likert scale ranging from Very Highly Common (VHC), Highly Common (HC), Common (C), Rarely Common, (RC) Not Common, (NC), and strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree and strongly disagree respectively. The face and content validity of the instrument was determined by given it to two experts in the field of science education and their observations were effected in the final copy of the questionnaire instrument was determined using Cronbach Alpha and reliability co-efficient of 0.71 was arrived at. The mean of the respondents to how common the social vices are ranked from the highest to the lowest and the average mean of the instrument is 2.5, hence any mean equal to or greater than 2.5 implies that the result respondents agreed with the questionnaire item and if less

than 2.5. It means the respondent disagreed with the item. The data collected were analysed using mean, standard deviation, t-test and Analysis of variance (ANOVA).

Results

Research Question 1: what are the ratings of social vices in the society by the students?

Table 1: Respondents' Mean Rating of Types of Social Vices

S/N	ITEMS	Mean	Std. Deviation	Rank
1	Sex trade	3.42	1.42	8th
2	Drug Abuse	4.03	1.30	1st
3	Cultism	3.53	1.42	6th
4	Examination malpractices	3.73	1.33	4th
5	Gambling	3.25	1.34	10th
6	Internet fraud	3.50	1.40	7th
7	Money laundering	3.38	1.37	9th
8	Indecent dressing	3.72	1.18	5th
9	Smoking	3.85	1.37	3rd
10	Stealing	4.01	1.07	2nd

Table 1 showed that the respondents rated all the types of social vices as common in the society, because their mean values are greater than the grand mean value of 2.5. While the respondents rated drug abused as the highest and gambling as the least social vices in the society.

Research question 2: What are the perceptions of students' on how to curb social vices in the society?

Table 2: Perceptions of students' on how to curb social vices in the society

S/N	ITEMS	Mean	Std. deviation
1	Students should be counselled on the effect of social vices	3.60	0.64
2	Parents should monitor their children behaviour in order to be able to prevent their indulgence in social vices at the early stage	3.67	0.55
3	Students should be taught the moral values of the society	3.60	0.55
4	There should be laid down rules and regulations that will prevent students from taking part in social vices	3.51	0.63
5	Adequate facilities should be provided for students for effective check and control during examination.	3.51	0.72
6	Students involve in social vices should be punished severely to serve as deterrent for other.	3.46	0.65

7	Students should be enlightened and educated on the side effect of social vices.	3.41	0.73
8	Students should be encouraged to study hard so as to be able to do away with the social vice because an idle mind is the devil workshop.	3.67	0.55
9	Parents should check the type of friends their children are moving with.	3.70	0.56
10	School authorities should make sure that security is tight in the college so as to wade off social vices in the society.	3.76	0.47

Table 2 showed that majority of the students agreed with statements presented to them on how to curb social vices in the society. The means of the respondents on all the items are greater than average mean of the instrument which is 2.5. It could be inferred from the table that the students' majority agreed with all the statements since all the mean values are greater than 2.5. This means that the students have positive perceptions of the way of curbing social vices.

Research question 3: Does age group influence students' perceptions on how to curb social vices in the society?

Table 2: t-test Analysis of Students' Perceptions of Curbing of Social Vices in the Society Based on their Age Group

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Age	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	t	df	Sig	Decision
16-20	70	73.11	8.14	1.47	95	0.68	NS
21-25	27	70.33	8.69				

Table 2, revealed that the mean and standard deviation of Age 1(73.11 and 8.14) and Age 2 (70.33 and 8.69) respectively A t-valve of 1.47 was obtained at the degree of freedom of 95. The p-valve (p=0.68) was not significant at 0.05 alpha level. This indicates that there was no significant difference in the students' perceptions of curbing of social vices in the society based on their age group. Therefore, the hypothesis 1 was accepted.

Research question 4: Does grade level influence students' perceptions on how to curb social vices in the society.

Table 3: t-test Analysis of Students' Perceptions of Curbing of Social Vices in the Society Based on their Grade Level

Grade level	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	t	df	Sig	Decision
100L	57	72.75	8.19	0.58	95	0.81	NS
200L	40	71.75	8.64				

Table 3 shows the mean and standard deviation of level 1 (72.75 and 8.19) and level 2 (71.75 and 8.64) respectively. The t-valve of 0.58 was obtained at the degree of freedom of 95. The p-valve (0.58) was not significant at 0.05 alpha level. This also indicates that, there is no significant difference in the students' perceptions of curbing of social vices in the society based on their level. Therefore, the hypothesis 2 was accepted.

Research question 5: does subject combination influence on students' perception on how to curb to social vices in the society.

Table 4: Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) of Students' Perception on how to Curb Social Vices in Society Based on their Subject Combination.

Total item	Sum of squares	df	Mean square	F	Sig.
Between groups	248.545	2	124.272	1.812	.169
Within groups	644.228	94	68.566		
Total	6693.773	96			

Table 4 revealed that subject combination did not influence students' perception on how to curb social vices in the society. There is no significant difference in the students' perception on how to curb social vices in the society based on subject combination, Biology/Chemistry (M= 74.38, SD=7.33) Biology/computer (M=71.06, SD=8.49) and Biology/Integrated Science (M=71.12, SD=9.25) p=0.169. Since the p-value is greater than 0.05, the hypothesis 3 formulated was therefore accepted.

Discussion

The result of the study indicated that all the social vices presented to the respondents were ranked common. This finding is in agreement with submission of Jacob and Athanius (2019), who regarded social vices as evil and immoral behaviour such as illicit sex, thuggery, examination malpractice, etc.

Finding from the study also revealed that the respondents agreed with all the ways of curbing social vices presented to them as the appropriate measure. The finding agreed with that of George and Ukpong (2013), Omonijo et al, (2013) Nwabufo and Joshua (2015), who all submitted that social vices could be curbed by introducing proper upbringing, teaching of God words and moral values etc. to the students.

It was also reported in the study that the three variables considered in the study that is the age, grade level and subject combination of the respondents do not influence their perception of how to curb the social vices in the society. This means that as far as the study is concerned, the student's variable included, that is, age, grade level as well as subject combination have no influence on the perceptions of the students on rating and curbing of social vices in the society. The implication of this, is that all the necessary measures that would be given to curtail the social vices in the society should not be based on the variables.

Conclusion

Based on the findings, it can be concluded from this study that all the types of social vices in the society were ranked common by the respondent. This means that the society is still full of the menace called social vices. Agreeing with all the ways that could be use to curb the social vices in the society implies that the respondents are quite aware of the way out of the social evils. Lack of significant difference in the perception of the respondents on the way to curb the social vices based on age, grade level and subject combination respectively show that the variables did not influence the perceptions of the respondents.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study the following recommendations are made:

1. All the social vices need to be put under control since they have all be rated common in the society.
2. All the ways of curbing presented to the respondents in this study should be followed as strictly in order to eradicate the social vices so as to make the society peaceful to live in.
3. Age should not be a barrier in curbing the social vices in the society.
4. Irrespective of the grade level, way of curbing the social vices should be applicable to all.
5. The subject combination of the student should not be criteria to be considered when providing solution to social vices in the society.

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