Influence of Marriage on the Academic Performance of Female Students in Tertiary Institutions in Sokoto Metropolis

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ABSTRACT
This study is on the influence of marriage on the academic performance of female students in science related courses in tertiary institutions in Sokoto metropolis. A total number of three hundred and forty six (346) respondents were selected as sample for the study; also a total number of six schools were purposively selected. The three (3) instruments used for the research were Adapted version of academic need performance scale questionnaire, self-design marital influence questionnaire and Academic performance scale by Bakare. Three hypotheses were generated and tested using Pearson Moment Correlation Coefficient. Some of the recommendations are: Researchers should look more closely at what marriage does to enhance a students' academic performance at the state level.
Keywords: Academic performance, Marriage, Female Students, Tertiary Institution

INTRODUCTION
Education in the modern and dynamic world means different things to different people. It may be seen or viewed as the process of development which involves the passage of human being from infancy to maturity. Fatunwa (1974).

While trying to uncover the factors responsible for the downward trend in Nigerian system, many educationists have conducted researches in the areas of planning and administration with emphasis on the role played by educational planners Fatunwa, (1974). Human society is essentially developed from marriage relationship and thus the behaviour and general outlook of an individual is influenced by his/her place within the marriage group. Marriage is an important component of man's life. Filani (1984), noted that an ideal marriage is meant to be a situation whereby a husband and wife live together to complement each other's effort, where the wife is suppose to be a source of comfort, care and love to her husband and where peace and faithfulness to each other should be the watch word. To be alone brings psychological disequilibria and lack of fellowship. Thus a man or a woman who find himself or herself in such a state feels alienated (Akinboye, 1982).

Many Nigerians wonder why marriage no longer works. According to Filani (1984), it is an established fact that all do not go well in the family without a time of conflict even in the happiest homes. However, the way resolutions are either separated due to work or job, un-agreeable, incompatible and grossly unmatchable, perhaps these are due to Frivolous choices of partners and some other reasons such as where couples failed to meet their marriage obligations in the area of sex, children upbringing and education, having leisure times. Thus it has been noted that success or failure in marriage is positively related to the adjustment of the couples to problems arising in their relationship.

Also many researches were conducted on the relationship between marriage and academic performance. For instance, Potokri (2013) reviewed that, the academic performance of women students in higher

education in Nigeria differs between married women students and single women students. However, some women students in this study were satisfied with their academic performance while others were not. They blamed their academic performance on several factors including cultural practice, marital status, financial constraints and so forth. Apart from women students in higher education on who were not satisfied with their academic performance, all women students who formed the sample, including those who considered their academic performance to the satisfactory complained about cultural practices and their effect on academic performance. Despite their complaints, however, the majority of the women students' participants in this study, both married and single, continue to support cultural practices. The said that cultural practices, including the ones that are considered harmful to higher education for women and their academic performance, should not be eradicated or changed, as they maintain that this practices make women truly responsible.

1. What is the relationship between marriage and the academic performance of female students in tertiary institution in Sokoto metropolis?
2. What is the relationship between marriage and study of science courses by female students in tertiary institution in Sokoto metropolis?
3. What is the attitude of parents towards western education of female students in science related courses in Sokoto metropolis.

Research Hypotheses
1. There is no significance relationship between marriage and the academic performance of female students in tertiary institutions in Sokoto metropolis.
2. There is no significance relationship between marriage and the study of science courses by female students in tertiary institutions in Sokoto metropolis.
3. There is no significance relationship between attitudes of parents towards science education on the performance of female students in tertiary institutions in Sokoto metropolis.

METHODOLOGY
This chapter dealt with research design, population of the study sample and sampling techniques research instrumentation, procedure used for data collection and methods that was used in analyzing data after collection.

Research Design
The research design adopted in this study was a descriptive and correlational survey method. A correlational study as quoted in Umar, (2014) was a frequently used type of research that was concerned with determining the extent of relationship existing between variables. This design used to ascertain the extent to which variation in one variables were associated with variations in another. In this study, the researchers were interested in finding out if the independent variable was related to the dependent variable. Hence the use of correlational design. A correlational design was therefore, considered as appropriate method because it permits one to measure variables and their interrelationship simultaneously. And concerning the degree of relationship between variables under study.

Population of the Study
The target population for this study is the entire post – secondary schools in the metropolis. These include two (2) Federal Institutions and four other State tertiary institutions located in various part of the metropolis as shown in the table 1 below; with the total population of one thousand nine hundred and eighteen (1918),

Table 1. The target population of students in post – secondary schools in Sokoto metropolis

S/N	Name of the institutions in Sokoto metropolis	No of males	No of females	Total population
1	Usmanu Danfodiyo University Sokoto	3879	1517	5396
2	UDUTH School of Nursing and midwifery	28	30	58
3	School of Nursing and midwifery Sokoto	312	85	397
4	Shehu Shagari College of Education Sokoto	372	126	498
5	Sokoto State University	330	92	422
6	The Sokoto State Polytechnic	280	68	398
	Total	5201	1918	7119

Source: Field work

Sample and Sampling Techniques

The sampling procedure used is purposive. These institutions were deliberately selected based on their nature and courses they offered. This was in order to obtain more accurate representation, and to address the different characteristic of the entire population (1918) which is one thousand nine hundred and eighteen. Also the sample was drawn from the newly admitted students for 2015/2016 academic session from six schools in the metropolis.

Table 2. Sample for the Study

S/N	Name of schools	Sample Size
1	Usmanu Danfodiyo University Sokoto	65
2	UDUTH School of Nursing and Midwifery	21
3	Shehu Shagari College of Education Sokoto	65
4	The Sokoto State Polytechnic	65
5	School of Nursing and midwifery Sokoto	65
6	Sokoto State University	65
	Total	346

Source: Field work

A total number of six schools were purposively selected for this study with the population of one thousand nine hundred and eighteen (1918) respondents. Having seen that the population for this study is too large to handle, the researchers used table for determining the sample size (Krejcie & Morgan, 1970) in order to obtain the representative sample size of the population which was three hundred and forty six (346).

Moreover, the sample size of each school, from the four selected schools proportionate sampling technique was employed. However, the random sampling technique was used, using a lucky deep method of "yes" and "No" to selected respondents from each school as cited by (Umar, 2014).

Instrumentation

The instrument used in this study is the questionnaire which will be able to collect large amount of information from a large number of people in a short period of time and can be more analysed more scientifically. The questionnaire for this study was divided into two (2) to achieve the purpose of the study

(a) Adapted version of academic need performance scale (AVANPS) by Shola, (2011).
(b) Self –Design questionnaire influence of marriage for science courses questionnaire (IMSCQ). Adapted version of Shola, (2011) Academic performance scale. The scale was developed by

Bakare (1977) and adapted by Shola, (2011) it has thirty six items which respondents are expected to score on a four point liker scale.

Procedure for Data Collection

The administration of the instrument Adapted Version of Academic Performance Need Scale was distributed to the subjects. The subjects were instructed to go through the items carefully so as to find out if there was any area requiring some explanations. After they had done this, they were given one and half hour to respond to the items in the sub scale. Soon after one and half hour period allowed, the instrument were collected for scoring.

Before, the questionnaires were administered to the respondents; the researcher and his assistant explain the meaning of the response symbols. The analysis part of the questionnaire contains (36) items of four likert scale. The symbols used were strongly disagree (SDA), Disagree (D),   agree (A), strongly agree (SA). After collections of the first instrument the second instrument was administered to the same group of students. The two instruments were given to each respondent and questionnaires were filled and return by the respondents for data analysis.

Procedure for Data Analysis

After the collection and scoring of relevant questionnaire data the researchers will analysed data using Pearson moment correlated co-efficient to find out whether there is relationship between influence of marriage and academic performance of married women in science courses.

Hypotheses Testing

1. HO_1 There is no significance relationship between influence of marriage and academic performance of female students in tertiary institution in Sokoto metropolis.

Table 3: Relationship between influence of marriage and the academic performance of female students

Variables	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	r-Cal	*p-value*	Decision
Influence of marriage	346	150.86	27.904	.906	.000	H_0 Rejected
Academic performance	346	72.45	21.520			

From table 3 it can be seen that the relationship between influence of marriage and their academic performance results in a high calculated r-value of .906   and a p-value of .000 at .05 level of significance. This indicates that students' influence of marriage has relationship with their academic performance. Thus, the hypothesis is rejected.

2. HO_2 There is no significance relationship between female married science students in tertiary institutions in Sokoto metropolis.

Table 4: Relationship between female married science students in tertiary institutions

Variables	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	r-Cal	*p-*Value	Decision
Female Married Science Students	233	78.8	16.7	.506	.000	H_0 Rejected
Academic performance	233	34.4	10.8			

From table 4, it can be seen that the relationship between female married science students in tertiary institutions and their academic performance results in a high calculated r-value of .506 and a p-value of

.000 at .05 level of significance. This indicates that marriage of female science students in tertiary institutions has relationship with their academic performance. Thus, the hypothesis is rejected.

HO_3 There is no significant relationship between attitudes of parents towards science education on the academic performance of female students in tertiary institutions in Sokoto Metropolis.

Table 5: Relationship between attitudes of parents towards science education on the academic performance of female students

Variables	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	t-Cal	*t-critical*	Decision
Attitude of Parents towards Sci.	113	72.1	16.8	.705	.000	H_0 Rejected
Academic Performance	113	38.1	11.6			

From table 5 it can be seen that the relationship between attitudes of parents towards science education and their academic performance results in a calculated t-value of .71 and a p-value of .000 at .05 level of significance. This indicates that attitudes of parents towards science education have relationship with their academic performance. Thus, the hypothesis is rejected.

DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS

The researcher discusses the result of the analysis by taking the hypotheses one after the other. In testing hypothesis one, it indicated as shown in table 1 that the relationship between Students influence of marriage and academic performance is significantly related because the calculated r-value is greater than the p-value. The result of the findings is consistent with the findings of Yahaya and Idowu (1998), which revealed significant and positive relationship between the academic performance and influence of married women. And which according to Yahaya and Idowu is consistent with that of Burke and Weir (1976), which found significant relationship between influence of marriage and academic performance. Similarly, according to them the findings are inconsistent with the reports of Knechet and Macke (1981), and Obasa (1982), which indicated that there were no significant relationship between academic performance and marital influence.

In testing the hypothesis two, it indicated as shown in table 2 the relationship between female married science students in tertiary institutions and their academic performance is significantly related because the calculated r-value is greater than the p-valua. The result of the findings is consistent with the findings of Yahya and Idowu (1998), which revealed significant and positive relationship between the academic performance and influence of marriage. And which according to Yahya and Idowu is not consistent with that of Burke and Weir (1976), which found significant relationship between the relationship between female married science students in and their academic performance. Similarly, according to them the findings are consistent with the reports of Knechet and Macke (1981), and (Obasa,1982), which indicated that there were no significant relationship between female married science students in and their academic performance.

The result of the findings is also in agreement with Encyclopedia Britannica (2010), explains adjustment as a process of behaviour by which men and animals maintain equilibrium among their various needs or between their needs and obstacles of their environment. Adjustment is a multidimensional concept which considers a person's relationship with his/her spouse and has objective characters (Broman, 2005). A sequence of adjustment begins when a need is felt and when it is satisfied. An actor is adjusted to a marital or to any other role, to the degree that he or she knows the expectation that defines the role and only the appropriate conditions can produce the expected behaviours. According to Filani (1984), adjustment is in form of a person knowing what to expect from a situation and is prepared with a

repertoire of responses appropriate to the situation. Landis and Landis (1977) in his own describes a well adjusted person as one who is able to perform the functions demanded by his position in life and the situation in which he finds himself and his/her performance.

From the discussion so far, that influence of marriage has no relationship with their academic performance. Thus, the hypothesis is rejected. it is evident that. The result revealed the importance married men placed on their academic performance as the bread winners of the family. As married female student is aware that it is the marriage, and provides them with the needed opportunities for societal acceptance and most importantly respect from the wife and children on who they depend for their educational and social supports. More so, the interactions and experiences derived at school and provide the opportunity to acquire new skills which could be applied to achieve influence of marriage.

The third hypothesis sought to find out, that there is no significant relationship between attitudes of parents towards science education on the academic performance of female students of female students. The result of this study has revealed a significant relationship as shown on table 3 indicating that the calculated r-value is higher than the p-value which indicated positive correlation. The finding is also in consonant with that of Yahya and Idowu (1998), which indicated no significant relationship between parental attitudes towards sciences and their academic performance. This also follows the findings of Burke and Weir (1976), Uwe (1999), which equally found no significant relationship. The result is inconsistent with those of Chukwumenye (2011) and Obasa (1992), which observations revealed no significant relationship. Also, Ogunsami (2001), defined influence of marriage as an adaptation between husband and wife, to a point where there is companionship agreement or basic values, affection intimacy, accommodation and certain other unidentified factors. In agreement to the above definition, influence of marriage has also been defined as the accommodation of husband and wife to each other at a given time. According to Kolo (1998), the acceptance of marital relationship as a live and ongoing leaves it in a more advantageous position to appreciate the changes in behaviour exhibited by marriage partners during the course of relationship. Spanier and Cole (1976), in a summary of the various definitions of influence of marriage, agreed that influence of marriage is an ever changing process with a maladjusted. This they viewed influence of marriage as a kind of process, the outcome of which is determined by troublesome marital differences, interpersonal tensions and personal anxiety, marital satisfactory, dyadic cohesion and consensus on matter of importance to marital functioning.

The significant relationship between female students' influence of marriage attitudes of parents and academic performance has shown the competition and challenges in the Nigerian married students as women no longer depend on their husbands or parents for their immediate and exterior needs. This is evident in the fact that married women in some cases are the sponsors of their brothers and sisters educational pursuits and often times take care of their old parents.

RECOMMENDATIONS
1.   There is the need on the part of the Ministry of education to establish a counseling unit with the responsibility of educating and enlightening the married female students on issues that may retard their marriages and academic performance, such as marital conflicts, absenteeism, and lateness to school.
2.   The majority of the married women students' participants in this study, married continue to support cultural practices and their parental attitudes to sciences. They said that most parents considered cultural practices, including the ones that are considered harmful to higher education for women and their academic performance, should not be eradicated or changed, as they maintain that these practices make women truly responsible.

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Prof. A.A. Salawu Journal of counseling psychology 2015 fifth edition