



The Root And Consequences Of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja

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ABSTRACT

The study examined the Root and Consequences of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja. Two research questions and two hypotheses guided the study, the instrument used for the study is a questionnaire with two sections which was used to get the required information from the targeted audience. Mean, standard deviation and rank order and z-test were used to answer the research question and hypotheses respectively. The result of the study indicates that Poverty, poor health, early pregnancy, lack of inspiration and poor academic performance are the causes, with drug trafficking, political thuggery, prostitution, increase in crimes and armed robbery are the consequences of dropout among learners. The study recommended that Proper structured social safety net, and adequate environment for learning should be provided and good health system and proper academic calendar which will include feeding programme with an awesome conclusion to the study.

Keywords: dropout, learners, teachers, parents, schools

INTRODUCTION

Hornby (2008) indicates that dropout means a person who leaves school or colleges before they have to finish their study. The rate of dropout from school is really an issue that requires adequate attention by planning properly and making adequate provision for such incidence hence it occurs having in mind that many factors are responsible for such an incidence. Growth and development of nations largely depends on the percentage of educated and enlightened citizens hence education is the route towards eliminating or eradicating ignorant among citizens. It is imperative to understand that education plays integral roles towards every nations industrialization and eradication of poverty, hunger and dependence on parents, siblings and friends as being witnessed today in Nigeria. Huge number of school dropouts in our society has being tagged a time bomb awaiting explosion hence there is no proper arrangements like social safety nets to accommodate the school dropout or give them a new life. National Centre for National for Education Statistics (2018) defined dropping out from school as leaving without completing a high school or equivalent credential like GED developing countries and underdeveloped has this effect to be very high in all levels of education.

As the case implies dropping out of school has hindered personal and societal growth and development in poor countries and it has enormous effect. UNESCO (2000) indicates that about 30million children in the developing world are denied right for education due to dropping out of a school. In China dropout rate in rural schools is about 40% and the reason is because they are unhappy with the studies without spread of literacy, the dream of socio economic development can never be realized (Abdul, Q.M, Muhmmad, A& Fazia, B ,2004). Basically developed countries has gone beyond the stage of dropout from school being burden to their economies hence there are cautious effort to tackle such incidence when the need arise by creating reliable social nets to carter for such occurrence. Egwenyenga and Nwadini (2004) revealed that 98% education attainment, USA 89%, Nigeria 59% and Sudan 33% as reported by world bank 1996 on

development indicators. In the same UNICEF (2004) reported that about 7.3million children out of school of which 62% are girls and the primary school completion is far behind the boys at 76% compared to 85% of boys that complete primary education in Nigeria.

Objectives of the Study

This study examined the Root and Consequences of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja with specific objectives sought to;

1. Identity the Root of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja.
2. Determine the Consequences of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja.

Research Questions

1. What are the Root of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja?
2. What are the Consequences of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja?

Hypotheses

1. There is no significant difference between the mean rating of the opinion of principals and teachers on the Root of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja.
2. There is no significant difference between the mean rating of the opinion of principals and teachers on the Consequences of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja.

Literature Reviews

Sources of Dropout Among Learners

Create (2007) reveals that more children enrolled in school recently in Africa, it simply proves that more awareness have been created to the people on the importance of education and school enrolment having in mind that an educated mind is a liberated mind who turns the society around positively. The sources are enormous but financial weakness have high possibility of dropping out of school due to the inability of parents and students paying the needed or rudimental fees in schools to enable them remain in school UNICEF(2007) states that most parents are inadequately and financially not sound to support the schooling of the children. The absence of adequate infrastructures in the school environment has often led to students deserting classes hence students study under stress, sit on the floor in classes due to lack of chairs. Absence in class is fondly caused by unidentified reasons by the school authorities, parental attitude contributes highly due to the idea of parents not giving the children the required attention by attending to their needs and prioritize education. Depression is a unique factor towards academic performance which makes they dropout voluntarily. Pregnancy and early marriage is witnessed today due to religious belief and cultural sentiment, Create (2007) reveals that most children drop from school due early pregnancy and early marriage and most cases who to assist carter for child becomes an impediment towards continuation of schooling. Insecurity like have today in the north eastern part of Nigeria is a serious cause of school dropout in our society as no meaningful development and activities will take place in any crisis or war ravaged zone and is a global issues. Poor health, hunger, starvation and malnutrition caused by poor dieting according to Pridmore et al(2007) indicates that children who suffers from protein energy malnutrition, hunger, starvation or who lack certain micro-nutrients in their diet do not have the same potential for learning compared to healthy and well nourished children. Scarcity of schools which has led students walking a far distance to attend schools mostly in rural areas, lack of adequately qualified teachers in the schools and improper language in teaching and learning process which is mainly vernacular in the rural areas in the vein corporal punishment has also caused large number of dropout among students in public schools.

Dropout and Consequences Among Learners

Vision 2030 indicates that education is a ray component of economic growth because it has a direct influence on entrepreneurship, productivity, growth and increase on employment opportunities and women empowerment. The effects of school dropout cannot be over emphasized hence its effects has being very inimical to the growth and development of our society and to our individual lives, is on record that today most crisis ravaging parts of the country is possible because of the vulnerability and gullibility of the unenlightened and uneducated youths who are easily influenced though the concept of indoctrination in the name of religion to commit all sort of crime. Education enables the youths to harness their potentials and abilities, creativity and systematically skills to contest with the fast changing global inclination. The effects of dropout have strong direct implications to the society and the social life of the youths. Most of the youths engage in various in moral activities to earn a living like prostitution, drug addiction and sales, blood money, cultism, thurgery, armed robbery and kidnapping (Hunt, 2007). Students dropout rate down plays literacy rate of the country and non innovative, basically people without education are unable to get good jobs and live reasonably unlike the illiterate ones who finds it difficult to get good jobs rather than engage in casual jobs to earn a living. Accquilano (2009) asserts that students who failed due to graduate from high school experiences a tremendous loss of income over a life time. This appears more with the issues of delinquency and drug related crime rate and other highly risky behaviour such as alcohol abuse, drug abuse and immoral sexual activities. The rapid of ignorance among high number of the citizens is due to illiteracy which resulted from youths dropping out of school due to one or rudimental and pertinent issues among citizens.

RESEARCH METHODS

The data was analysed using the mean scores, weighted means scores, aggregated mean scores, standard deviation and rank order to answer the research question and z-test of difference for independent sample to test the hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance.

Table 1: Mean, Standard Deviation and Rank Order of the Perception of Principals and Teachers on the Root of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja.

	What are the Root of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja?	Teachers (n=412)		Principals (n=33)		Mean Set	Rank Order	Decision
		Mean (\bar{x}_1)	SD	Mean (\bar{x}_2)	SD			
1	Poverty	2.84	0.89	2.66	0.86	2.75	2 nd	Agreed
2	Poor health	2.89	0.86	2.55	1.01	2.72	4 th	Agreed
3	Early pregnancy	2.78	0.89	2.83	0.94	2.81	1 st	Agreed
4	Lack of inspiration	2.75	0.81	2.73	0.92	2.74	3 rd	Agreed
5	Poor academic performance	2.66	0.85	2.76	0.93	2.71	5 th	Agreed
	Aggregate Mean	2.78	0.86	2.71	0.93	2.75		Agreed

The data in Table 1, showed that respondents agreed on the following items 3, 1, 4, 2, and 5 with mean scores of 2.81, 2.75 2.74, 2.72 and 2.71 rank orders of 1st, 2nd, 2nd, 3rd, &4th from criterion mean of 2.5. The aggregate mean for teachers is 2.78 and 2.71 for principals showed that the respondents agreed on the list of items on the table as the Root of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education

Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja since it greater than the criterion mean. The causes identified included: Poverty, poor health, early pregnancy, lack of inspiration and poor academic performance.

Table 2: Mean, Standard Deviation and Rank Order of the Perception of Principals and Teachers on the Consequences of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja

	What are the Consequences of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja	Teachers (n=412)		Principals (n=33)		Mean Set	Rank Order	Decision
		Mean (\bar{x}_1)	SD	Mean (\bar{x}_2)	SD			
		6	Drug trafficking	2.88	0.84			
7	Political thurgery	2.87	0.85	2.71	0.87	2.79	1 st	Agreed
8	Prostitution	2.58	0.72	2.50	0.86	2.54	5 th	Agreed
9	Increase in crimes	2.66	0.83	2.73	0.85	2.70	3 rd	Agreed
10	Armed robbery	2.59	0.75	2.60	0.86	2.60	4 th	Agreed
	Aggregate Mean	2.72	0.80	2.63	0.85	2.68		Agreed

The data in Table 2, showed that respondents agreed on the following items 7, 6, 9, 10, and 8 with mean scores of 2.79, 2.75, 2.70, 2.60, 2.54 and rank orders of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th from criterion mean of 2.5. The aggregate mean for teachers is 2.72 and 2.63 for principals showed that the respondents agreed on the list of items on the table as the What are the Consequences of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja since it greater than the criterion mean. The effects identified includes: drug trafficking, political thurgery, prostitution, increase in crimes and armed robbery

Table 3: Mean, Standard Deviation and z-test scores on analysis of difference between the opinion of Principals and Teachers on the Root of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja

Staff	N	Mean	SD	Df	z-cal	Critical Value	Decision
Teachers	415	2.78	0.86	443	0.41	±1.96	Accept H ₀₁
Principals	33	2.71	0.93				

In table 3, the mean ratings of 2.78 and 2.71 are so closely related to show no significant difference between them. Furthermore at 0.05 levels of significance and at 443 degrees of freedom, the calculated z value of 0.41 was far less than the critical value of ±1.96. From the analysis above since the calculated z value was far less than the table value, thus researcher accept the null hypotheses and which indicate that no significant difference existed between the perception of principals and teacher on the Root of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja

Table 4: Mean, Standard Deviation and z-test Scores on Analysis of Difference between the opinion of Principals and Teachers on the teachers on the Consequences of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja.

Staff	N	Mean	SD	Df	z-cal	Critical Value	Decision
Teachers	415	2.72	0.80	443	0.60	±1.96	Accept H ₀
Principals	33	2.63	0.85				

In table 4, the mean ratings of 2.72 and 2.63 are so closely related to show no significant difference between them. Furthermore at 0.05 levels of significance and at 443 degrees of freedom, the calculated z value of 0.60 was far less than the critical value of ±1.96. From the analysis above since the calculated z value was far less than the table value, thus researcher accept the null hypotheses and which indicate that no significant difference existed between the opinion of principals and teachers on the Consequences of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja.

CONCLUSION/ RECOMMENDATIONS

The study concluded by revealing the Root and Consequences of Dropout Among Learners: Scientific Analysis of Education Stakeholders in Urban Areas of FCT, Abuja. Based on the findings of the study the following recommendations were made; Proper structured social safety net, and adequate environment for learning should be provided, Good health system and proper academic calendar which will include feeding programs.

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