ABSTRACT

Background: As a consequence of rapid social change and the resultant breakdown of traditional social structures, illegal use of drugs have spread across the globe without exception of Nigeria.

Methods: Cross-sectional descriptive design was used. Five Senior Secondary Schools were selected. Using Research advisor (2006) Sampling table, 365 respondents were sampled using stratified random sampling technique out of 3812 students. Standardized questionnaire structured by Afuwai in 2016 was adapted. Data from the pilot study was analyzed using Cronbach's alpha an reliability indexes of 804 and .813 were obtained. This is to determine the internal consistency of the responses to the items. Statistics were presented in mean and standard deviation and a three point-scale was used. Hypothesis were tested using independent sample t-test at .05 level of significance.

Results: The study revealed that students under the influence of drugs can: fight a teacher, sneak out of school and break school regulations, take part in fight where a group of their friends were against another group, damages school properties on purpose, got into problem with the police for something they did. The study showed that students who abuse drugs are often below average student in their respective classes. To buttress this, the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant influence of drug abuse on the academic performance of senior secondary schools student was rejected (p-value of 0.03 is less than 0.05 level of significance).

Conclusion: Drugs abuse has an influence on both students’ civic behavior and academic performances.

KEYWORDS: - Academic, Behavior, Civic, Drugs, Performance.
STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM
Apart from cannabis misuse, there is a growing abuse of synthetic drugs, which were once strange to the Nigerian society. Amphetamine, methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin, paint thinner, glue, cough syrup made with codeine, cement and animal faeces are being widely abused among adolescence who are mostly Secondary Schools Students across Nigeria, Zaria Education Zone in Kaduna State inclusive. Between 2010 and 2012, six methamphetamine factories were discovered in Delta and Lagos states of Nigeria, said the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) (Punch, 2016). Drug abuse is a worldwide issue and not limited to Nigeria, and it is causing serious concern both to governments and individuals. The problem is more prevalent among young people who in most cases, are not aware of the implications of what they do. Many of such youths abuse drugs out of frustration due to poverty, which results from unemployment. Others abuse drugs out of ignorance of its dangers, while some do so out of deviant behaviour. Hence, they just want to be disobedient to authorities and to their parents (Ya'u, 2015).

Drop in the performance of students, absenteeism from school and increased potential for dropping out of school are problems associated with substance abuse among secondary schools Students in Zaria education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria as observed. Hawkins, Catalano, and Miller (2002) explained that low level of commitment to education and higher truancy rates appear to be related to substance misuse and abuse among adolescents.

Drug abuse is becoming like a cankerworm in public secondary schools across Nigeria today with Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State not left out. Hence, the Study; drug abuse, civic behavior and students’ academic performances: a perspective of senior secondary schools students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES
The study was carried out to achieve the following specific objectives;
1. To describe the influence of drug abuse on civic behavior of senior secondary schools students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria.
2. To determine how drug abuse influences senior secondary schools students’ academic performance in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria.

RESEARCH HYPOTHESES
The following null hypotheses were formulated and tested in this study at the 0.05 level of significance:
1. There is no significant influence of drug abuse on the civic behavior of secondary school students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria.
2. There is no significant influence of drug abuse on the academic performance of secondary school students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

ETHICAL CONSIDERATION
The ethical clearance was given by Quality Assurance Authority Zaria Division, Kaduna State Ministry of Education, Science and Technology on the 10th October, 2019 with reference number: ZA/ZON/G.198/VOL. I/262 to conduct the study.

SAMPLE SIZE AND SAMPLING TECHNIQUE
The sample size for this study was calculated using the Research Advisor table of recommendation of 2006 (Research Advisory, 2006). A Study population of 3812 students of senior secondary schools and 156 teachers were used (Kaduna State Ministry of Education, 2019). A total of three hundred and sixty five (365) students and 108 teachers were selected from five randomly selected schools out of the following Secondary schools in Zaria education zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria in 2019.

METHOD OF DATA ANALYSIS
Statistics were presented in Mean and standard deviation and a modified three point-scale rating of Likert format was used. Ranging from agree (A), Neutral
(N) and disagree (D); with scores of 3, 2, and 1 respectively. Hypotheses were tested using an independent sample t-test at the .05 level of significance to determine whether there is a statistically significant difference between the means of the two unrelated groups. All statistics were done using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (IBM-SPSS version 24).

**INSTRUMENTATION**

The instrument that was used for data collection was an adapted standardized questionnaire used by Afuwai in 2016 who carried a study on drug abuse on socio-emotional behavior of secondary school students in Kaduna State, Nigeria (Afuwai, 2016). The pilot study was analyzed using Cronbach’s alpha method to determine the internal consistency of the instruments. The reliability index of .804 was found for the first administration and .813 for the second administration of the instrument.

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

There was no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the study reported in this paper.

**RESULTS**

Table 1: Opinion of Respondents on the Influence of drugs abuse on Civic behavior of Senior Secondary School Students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cumulative: (2.67) (0.64)

Table 1 shows that the cumulative mean responses of all the items is 2.67 which is greater than the benchmark mean of 2.00 with the standard deviation value of 0.64. This implies that the responses were noteworthy. Explicitly, majority were of the opinion that students sneaked out of school and broke school rules and regulations due to the influence of drugs (This attracted the highest mean response of 2.82 and standard deviation of 0.53 with details showing that 389 respondents were in agreement). The respondents agreed that students under the influence of drugs can fight a teacher, take part in fight where a group of their friends were against another group, damages school properties on purpose, got into problem with the police for something they did. This is so as all these opinions have means score greater than the benchmark of 2.00. This may not be far from the fact that drug abuse has a way of influencing the users negatively.

Table 2: Opinions of Respondents on Drug Abuse and its Influence on the Academic behavior of Senior Secondary School Students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cumulative: (2.15) (0.84)

Key and Benchmark: Mean ≥ 2.00 = Agree; Mean < 2.00 = Disagree; A=Agree; N=Neutral; D=Disagree.
Table 2 shows that the cumulative mean responses of all the opinions is 2.15 which is greater than the benchmark mean of 2.00 with the standard deviation value of 0.64 implying that their responses were noteworthy. From the table, it was observed that majority of the respondents were of the opinion that drug abuse has poor academic performance and they are probably one of the worst academic wis. This attracted the highest mean response of 2.49 and standard deviation of 0.79 with details showing that 272 respondents were in agreement. Moreover, the respondents were of the opinions that students who abuse drugs can never be a well above average and an average student but they will rather be a very well below average student.

TESTING OF NULL HYPOTHESES

Null Hypothesis One: There is no significant influence of drugs abuse on the civic behavior of senior secondary school students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria.

Table 3: Correlation for opinions of Teachers and Students on Influence of Drugs Abuse on the Civic Behaviors of Senior Secondary School Students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>S.D</th>
<th>Df</th>
<th>r-cal</th>
<th>r-crit</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teachers</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>12.82</td>
<td>2.31</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>0.88</td>
<td>Not Sig.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>349</td>
<td>13.85</td>
<td>2.15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

r-crit = (0.10), P>0.05Key: N = Sample Size; $\overline{X}$ = Mean; SD = Standard Deviation; df = Degree of Freedom; r-cal = Correlation Calculated; r-crit. = Correlation Critical; Sig = Significant

Table 3 revealed a mean of 12.82 with standard deviation of 2.31 for teachers as against a mean of 13.85 with standard deviation of 2.15 for students respectively. There is weak influence of drug abuse on students’ civic behavior based on the opinions of the respondents which was statistically not significant ($r = 0.02$, $n = 437$, $p = 0.88$). This is an indication that drug abuse has little or no influence on the civic behavior of senior secondary school students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria. Based on the result, the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant influence of drugs abuse on the civic behaviors of senior secondary schools students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria was retained. This is because the p-value of 0.88 is greater than 0.05 level of significant.

Null Hypothesis Two: There is no significant influence of drugs abuse on the academic performance of senior secondary school students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria.

Table 4: Correlation for opinions of Teachers and Students on Influence of Drug Abuse on the Academic Performance of Senior Secondary Schools Students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>S.D</th>
<th>Df</th>
<th>r-cal</th>
<th>r-crit</th>
<th>p</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teachers</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>10.39</td>
<td>1.97</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>-0.73</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>Sig.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>349</td>
<td>11.11</td>
<td>2.60</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

r-crit = (0.10), P<0.05Key: N = Sample Size; $\overline{X}$ = Mean; SD = Standard Deviation; df = Degree of Freedom; r-cal = Correlation Calculated; r-crit. = Correlation Critical; Sig. = Significant

Table 4 revealed a mean of 10.39 with standard deviation of 1.97 for teachers as against a mean of 11.11 with standard deviation of 2.60 for students respectively. There is strong negative influence of drug abuse on students’ academic performance based on the opinions of the respondents which was statistically significant ($r = -0.73$, $n = 437$, $p = 0.03$). This is an indication that drug abuse has influence on the academic performance of senior secondary school students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State. Based on the result, the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant influence of drugs abuse on the academic performance of senior secondary schools students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria was therefore rejected. This is because the p-value of 0.03 is less than 0.05 level of significant.

DISCUSSION

From the study, the respondents agreed that students under the influence of drugs can fight a teacher, sneak out of school, break school regulations, take part in fight where a group of their friends were against another group, damages school properties on purpose, got into problem with the police for something they did. This is so as mean scores of more than 2.00 were obtained for all these items respectively. The null hypothesis which states that there is no significant influence of drugs abuse on the civic behaviors of Senior Secondary Schools Students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria was retained. This is because the p-value of 0.88 is greater than 0.05 level of significant. This might be an indication to show that drug abuse alone may not be the cause of some negative behaviors seen among Senior Secondary Schools Students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria. Due to this, it can be deduced that many of the public secondary students might not be well disciplined by the school authorities and therefore misbehave even without being under the influence of drug abuse. Thus, bad civic
behaviors in Senior Secondary Schools can be attributed to both indiscipline and drugs influence among students. This study is not in agreement with a study carried out by Afuwai (2016) on drug abuse on socio-emotional behavior among Secondary Schools Students in Kaduna state, Nigeria which revealed a significant difference in the influence of drug abuse on the social and emotional behavior of drugs abusers. According to this study the respondents agreed that a significant number of the students reported to have taken part in a fight where a group of friends were against another group, taken something from a shop without paying for it, set fire to somebody else's property on purpose, damaged school property on purpose, got into trouble with the police for something they did, participated in a group teasing and bruising someone, and run away from home for more than one day under the influence of drugs. Another study in Kenya by Kavutha (2015) on the influence of drug use on academic performance among secondary school students in Matinyani district, established that majority of the students’ reported that drug use leads to disobedience to teachers (98.9%), bullying in schools (91.1%), noisemaking (90.3%), inciting others to defy teachers (85.9%), sneaking out of school (82.5%) and breaking school rules and regulations (80.7%). These findings were also not in agreement with that of this study which rejected the facts that drugs abuse only can not affect civil behaviors of students as such there are conglomerates of factors including indiscipline.

Moreover, from the study the respondents were of the opinions that students who abuse drugs are very well below average student in their respective classes. More so, the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant influence of drug abuse on the academic performance of Senior Secondary School Students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria was therefore rejected. This is because the p-value of 0.03 is less than 0.05 level of significant. This is an indication that drug abuse has influence on the academic performance of Senior Secondary Schools Students in Zaria Education Zone, Kaduna State, Nigeria. Hence, there is a strong negative influence of drug abuse on students’ academic performances. This finding is in line with a study by Amadi and Akpelu (2018) who examined drug abuse and academic performance of secondary school students in Emohua Local Government Area of Rivers State. Their findings revealed that drug abuse has effect on the academic performance of the secondary school students. The finding of the study is also related to the finding of another study in Kenya by Muusya Jackline Kavutha (2015) on the influence of drugs use on academic performance among secondary school students in Matinyani district, who established that drug use is common among secondary school students in Matinyani District and it leads to poor academic performance among the students. The findings also agreed with the finding of Agbonghalel and Okaka (2014) who examined the effects of drug abuse on academic performance on technology education students in public universities in Nigeria cited in Paulo PM (2017) showed that 82.79% of the population participated in their study agreed that hard drugs caused some side effects on the academic performance in Nigeria for those who engaged in drug abuse. Moreover, Paulo Peter Masenga in 2017 found out that the rate of school/class attendance for students who involve in the use of drugs was observed that drug abuse leads to poor class/school attendance which contribute to low in academic performance. In addition to that, the terminal and annual examination performances among children involved in drug abuse was commented generally being very poor because most of the students who use drugs score below average grades in their subject hence failure of the school regional and national wise compared with those who do not use the drugs.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the findings of this study, it can be concluded that drugs abuse has an influence on both students’ civic behavior in and outside the school. It also has a negative impact on their academic performances rather than positive. This thereby affect who they will be in the future and even their career.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following recommendations were made:

1. Policies should be put in place by the government to ensure discipline in public secondary schools are strictly adhered to so that these children are not left to go in and out of school at will which consequently, leaves them at the mercy of drug peddlers.

2. Teachers should be sent for special programmes and training on drugs abuse and rehabilitation.

3. Parents should be educated on drug abuse and its sign. This will enable them to identify early signs in students in order to provide early intervention to save many of these students from being victims of drug abuse at the long run.

4. Prevention projects aimed at adolescents who stand the risk of abusing drugs should be established in every state, so that public secondary students can be made to participate in such projects.

**REFERENCES**


