INFLUENCE OF LIBRARY ENVIRONMENT ON ANXIETY OF NEW STUDENTS IN FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AKURE, ONDO STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract

This study investigated influence of library environment on anxiety of new students in Federal University of Technology Akure, Ondo State, Nigeria. The research was guided by the objectives such as finding the causes of library anxiety, and the influence of library environment on anxiety of new students in Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State. The null hypotheses were formulated as: there is no significant difference in the causes of library anxiety among new undergraduate students in the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State, as well as there is no significant difference in the extent of influence of library environment on anxiety among new undergraduate students in Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo, State. A Survey research method was adopted for the study, the population of the study consisted of four thousand five hundred (4,500) new undergraduate students that secured admission in 2017/2018 academic session, a simple random sampling technique was used to select eight hundred and fifty five (855) students. The instrument used for data collection for this study was the questionnaire. It was found out that majority of the respondents indicated that they were not able to use the university library because of lack of previous experience on library use. Also, they were not physically safe in the library because the security apparatus around the library are doubtful in Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo, State. The study concluded that library environment influenced the anxiety of new undergraduate students in Federal University of Technology Akure, Ondo State, Nigeria. It is therefore recommended that the Management of the library should make sure that an information literacy course introduce for preiod of two or more semesters to new undergraduate students as well as the provision of chairs and desks that will bring more comfort to the students for their information access.

Key words: Influence, Library Envernronemt, Library anxitiety Federal University Of Technology

Introduction

Library anxiety can lead to difficulty in accessing information by the users in academic institution. Some of these users are students. Some of these students find themselves into the higher institutions of learning for the first time. In higher institution, library enrironment is different from that in other environments such as public, school among other library environments. As such, they may develop anxiety in the library environment in the course of seaching for information. This can lead to difficulty in accessing the information by the user. Smith, Robinson and Segal (2016) identified anxiety symptoms as worry, concern, apprehension,

consternation, uneasiness, fearfulness, fretfulness, agitation, nervousness, tension, stress, trepidation, suspense, etc. These symptoms, if allowed to linger in one's life even as a student will hinder full concentration on the studies which can lead to poor academic performance. Confirming this, Owens, Stevenson, Hadwin and Norgate (2012) submitted that anxiety can negatively affect academic performance of students. Some students may encounter different levels of undesirable feelings such as fear, tension, and anxiety while making use of the library in the academic environment. Seeing a magnificent academic library environment for the first time, the presence of modern technological apparatus in today's libraries, the bulk of information resources, lack of necessary skills to carry out library research as well as the difficulties to interact with librarians can raise tension and fear thereby forcing the new users to avoid using the library.

Statement of the Problem

Academic libraries have been described as the heart of any educational institution where diverse information resources both print and e-resources are acquired, processed and preserved for the advancement of human knowledge. It is indeed a storehouse of information and a record of human experience to which users especially students turn to for their information needs. Yusuf and Iwu (2010) described academic library as an indispensable store house of information for intellectual development. The information sources and resources of academic libraries which, before the advent of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), had predominantly been on printed materials such as books, newspapers, periodicals etc., have now become a combination of both print and electronic resources such as e-books, e-journals, databases etc. However, new students are among the users of the information sources and resources in the academic libraries.

New undergraduate students who have not had previous knowledge of library instruction may experience difficulties in tapping the knowledge in library environment and the inability to use library may lead to frustration, procrastination and total abandonment of library. This may be caused by the technical process, availability of Internet, constant light, user relationship with library staff, user literacy, adequate signs among other components of library environment, required by the users to access the library, particularly new students in academic libraries. These students are found in Federal University of Technology Akure, Ondo State, Nigeria. Therefore, this study investigated the influence of library environment on anxiety of new students in Federal University of Technology Akure, Ondo State, Nigeria.

Objectives of the Study

The following objectives guided this study:

- 1. To find out the causes of library anxiety among new undergraduate students in Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State.
- 2. To determine the extent at which library environment influences library anxiety from new undergraduate students in Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State.

Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses were formulated:

HO₁: There is no significant difference in the causes of library anxiety among new undergraduate students in the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State.

HO₂: There is no significant difference in the extent of influence of library environment on anxiety among new undergraduate students in Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo, State.

Literature Review

The literature was reviewed in order to find out the submissions of scholars about library anxiety in relation to the library environment. The review is presented as follows:

Causes of Library Anxiety

The term library anxiety was coined by Mellon (1986) when she found that students exhibited symptoms similar to mathematics anxiety while using the library to carry out assignments such as writing term papers, essays or research papers. Mellon also observed that these feelings compelled students to avoid library and instead use money to photocopy library materials they need. These feelings according to her, put students at risk academically which in turn affects their academic performance. Since the publication of Mellon's article, several researchers have been writing on how library anxiety can have influence on various aspects of a library whether, academic library, public library, school library or special library and the effective use of the resources of such library by its patrons either new or old. Onwuegbuzie, Jiao and Bostick (2004) were of the view that the theory of library anxiety can be extended by collecting data from library environments which can be applicable to different types of libraries. Ansari (2009) studied the Relationship between Perceived Size of Library Collection and Library Anxiety among Undergraduate Students at International Islamic University Malaysia. One important variable that may give rise to anxiety according to the study is the perceived size of library collection of books. The adequacy of any library resources is one major factor that determines the effectiveness of a library in meeting the information needs of its patrons. Satisfying the information needs of students would assume to reduce the level of library anxiety but to some students these also cause them anxiety as some would feel confused while trying to use the library. The size of a library collection tends to have direct relationship with the size of the library building, i.e. the larger the building, the bigger the collection size. Most academic library buildings especially university library buildings are very big. The size of an academic library in term of building has been demonstrated in the empirical literature as well as in the cognitive affective stage model of library anxiety to be a factor influencing library anxiety. It is justified to research into library collection size as unique antecedent in the library context that influences students' level of library anxiety. Therefore, library anxiety is caused by many factors such as adequacy of library resources, the capacity, method of information service provision among others.

Library Environment and Users Anxiety

Comfort with the library refers to absence of anxiety caused by feelings of being unwelcomed, threatened, and uncomfortable inside the library. Academic library environment encompasses people, things and events around the library which can have potential effects, positive or negative, on library usage. Buck and Houzé (2014) described library environment to include landscape, architecture, interior layout, the décor, lighting, air quality and temperature. It also includes human relationships and interactions with all categories of users in the library. These according to the researchers can cause tension for new library users and prevent them from enjoying more successful information-seeking experience in the library. The design of a

library according to Amusa and Iyoro (2013) can influence users' behaviour and satisfaction in the same way the physical environment and organization of a library can. Vondracek (2007) observed that students seek comfort and convenience when searching for a location to study or conduct research. Comfort being the most important factor for studying alone is indicated by such characteristics as the ability to spread out, listen to music, and the level of privacy. Convenience, on the other hand, is the most important factor for studying in a group. It indicates the ability to locate a place to study and take breaks and even to have no closing hour, i.e., the library running 24 hours services daily. This practice according to Ekoja (2011) is novel in Nigeria but when the system fully takes off in Nigeria, it will give more opportunities to patrons to use library services at any hour of the day. It will also add more value to academic library services by creating more chances for librarians to educate new users on how to make the best use of library systems, resources and services for their optimal educational attainments thereby drastically reducing library anxiety.

The availability of internet facilities in academic libraries has dramatically changed the face of learning and research in the library environment in this digital age. Husaini, Abdullah, and Edris, (2012) conducted a study on "Minimizing Library Anxiety in Digital Era: A Case Study of Undergraduate Students in University of Teknologi Mara." The study used the five library anxiety constructs of: Barriers with Staff, Affective barriers, Comfort with the library, Knowledge of the library, and Mechanical barriers to study digital resources at the Tun Abdul Razak Library, University Teknologi Mara. The outcome of the study showed that with the digital library environment and the digital collections provided by Tun Abdul Razak library, most students no longer go to the library for printed materials or downloading of articles, rather they tend to retrieve reading materials via online. As a result, they seldom interact with the library staff and absolutely do not need the comfort of the library to study since they can freely access information from digital library at home or hostel. Therefore, library environmental factors such as the structure of the library, the Internet, the user relationship with the librarians among others can lead to the library anxiety among the users.

Methodology

Survey research method was adopted for the research because it was found to be the most appropriate because the study focused on a population that spread across the whole departments and schools in the university. Survey method is also used in studies that have individual people as unit of analysis and as such it was considered as the best method available to the researcher. The population of this study comprised the new undergraduate students of the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State. The population was according to the schools in the University as: School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology, 793; School of Earth and Mineral Sciences, 498; School of Engineering and Engineering Technology, 1,203; School of Environmental Technology, 970 and School of Sciences, 1,036, totalling 4,500, admitted for 2017/2018 academic session, according to Daramola (2018). Proportionate and simple random sampling techniques were used. Aliyu (2011) stated that to determine the sample size of a population, it should be between 15-30% of the population, hence, a sample size of 19% was used to arrive at 855, with 158, 98, 215, 180 and 204 as the sizes of each school respectively. The instrument used for data collection for this study was questionnaire. The data used to answer the research questions was analysed using frequency and percentage, while, that used to confirm the hypotheses was analysed using One-Way Anova.

Result and Discussion

This section presents the data analysed in this study. The data was analysed and discussed in order of the research questions used. The presentation is as follows:

Table 1: Causes of library anxiety among new undergraduate students in Federal

University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State

New undergraduate students in Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State	SN	Causes of library anxiety among	Responses			Total
Akure, Ondo State			•			
1. The university library is very stuffy for my liking 303 294 194 791 2. The library structure is too complex for my liking 38.3%) 37.2%) (24.5%) 791 3. The layout of the library makes location of information resources difficult 319 340 132 791 4. Lack of appropriate signage directing users on how to locate library materials 327 319 145 791 5. I have a general phobia or hatred for going to the library (31.5%) (39.8%) (28.7%) 791 6. The noise inside the library because most information resources I need are on the Internet or stored in my laptop, my phones, etc (47.7%) (32.9%) (19.5%) 791 8. The size of the university library is overwhelming (43.9%) (45.6%) (10.5%) 791 9. The library lavatories are too smelly and unhygienic (39.6%) (41.2%) (19.2%) 791 10. My inability to use the university library is because I lack previous experience of library use (54.2%) (35.4%) (10.4%) 11. I have no good knowledge of the library (36.8%) (42.2%) (20.9%) 791 12. I' m shy that I don't know how to use t		Federal University of Technology,				
for my liking		Akure, Ondo State	A	D	U	
2. The library structure is too complex (50.2%) 397 (50.2%) 274 (34.6%) 120 (15.2%) 791 3. The layout of the library makes location of information resources difficult 319 (40.3%) 340 (16.7%) 132 (16.7%) 791 4. Lack of appropriate signage directing users on how to locate library materials 327 (41.3%) 319 (40.3%) 145 (18.3%) 791 5. I have a general phobia or hatred for going to the library 249 (31.5%) 315 (227 791) 791 6. The noise inside the library causes a lot of distraction 377 (47.7%) 260 (32.9%) 154 791 7. I avoid library because most information resources I need are on the Internet or stored in my laptop, my phones, etc (47.7%) (32.9%) (15.0%) 8. The size of the university library is overwhelming (43.9%) (45.6%) (10.5%) 9. The library lavatories are too smelly and unhygienic (39.6%) (41.2%) (19.2%) 10. My inability to use the university library is because I lack previous experience of library use (54.2%) (35.4%) (20.9%) 11. I have no good knowledge of the library (36.8%)	1.	The university library is very stuffy	303	294	194	791
Solution Solution		for my liking	(38.3%)	(37.2%)	(24.5%)	
3. The layout of the library makes location of information resources difficult 319 (40.3%) (42.9%) (16.7%) 791 4. Lack of appropriate signage directing users on how to locate library materials 327 (41.3%) (40.3%) (18.3%) 319 (40.3%) (18.3%) 5. I have a general phobia or hatred for going to the library 249 (315 (28.7%)) 328%) (28.7%) 6. The noise inside the library causes a lot of distraction 377 (47.7%) (32.9%) (19.5%) 791 (19.5%) 7. I avoid library because most information resources I need are on the Internet or stored in my laptop, my phones, etc (47.7%) (37.3%) (15.0%) (15.0%) 8. The size of the university library is overwhelming 313 (43.9%) (45.6%) (10.5%) 326 (41.2%) 791 (19.2%) 10. My inability to use the university library is because I lack previous experience of library use 429 (280 82 79) 791 (10.4%) 11. I have no good knowledge of the library because I attended a secondary school without standard library 307 334 (42.2%) (20.9%) 791 (20.9%) 12. I'm shy that I don't know how to use the library is a comfortable place to study 385 (40.1%) (20.2%) 246 160 791	2.	The library structure is too complex	397	274	120	791
location of information resources difficult			(50.2%)	(34.6%)	(15.2%)	
difficult Lack of appropriate signage directing users on how to locate library materials 327 319 (40.3%) (18.3%) (18.3%)	3.		319	340	132	791
4. Lack of appropriate signage directing users on how to locate library materials 327 (40.3%) (145 791 5. I have a general phobia or hatred for going to the library 249 315 227 791 6. The noise inside the library causes a lot of distraction 377 260 154 791 7. I avoid library because most information resources I need are on the Internet or stored in my laptop, my phones, etc (47.7%) (32.9%) (19.5%) 8. The size of the university library is overwhelming (43.9%) (45.6%) (10.5%) 9. The library lavatories are too smelly and unhygienic (39.6%) (41.2%) (19.2%) 10. My inability to use the university library use 429 280 82 791 11. I have no good knowledge of the library use (36.8%) (35.4%) (10.4%) (20.9%) 12. I' m shy that I don't know how to use the library (38.8%) (40.1%) (21.1%) 791 13. The library is a comfortable place to study 385 246 160 791		location of information resources	(40.3%)	(42.9%)	(16.7%)	
directing users on how to locate library materials (41.3%) (40.3%) (18.3%) (19.2%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.5%) (19.2%) (difficult				
library materials 249 315 227 791	4.	Lack of appropriate signage	327	319	145	791
5. I have a general phobia or hatred for going to the library 249 (31.5%) 315 (22.7%) 791 6. The noise inside the library causes a lot of distraction 377 (47.7%) 260 (32.9%) 154 (19.5%) 7. I avoid library because most information resources I need are on the Internet or stored in my laptop, my phones, etc 377 (47.7%) 295 (37.3%) 119 (15.0%) 8. The size of the university library is overwhelming 43.9%) 45.6%) (10.5%) 9. The library lavatories are too smelly and unhygienic 313 (39.6%) 326 (152 791) 10. My inability to use the university library is because I lack previous experience of library use 429 (35.4%) 82 791 11. I have no good knowledge of the library because I attended a secondary school without standard library 307 (36.8%) 42.2%) (20.9%) 12. I' m shy that I don't know how to use the library (38.8%) 40.1%) (21.1%) 13. The library is a comfortable place to study 385 (48.7%) 246 (160 791)		directing users on how to locate	(41.3%)	(40.3%)	(18.3%)	
going to the library (31.5%) (39.8%) (28.7%)		library materials				
6. The noise inside the library causes a lot of distraction (47.7%) (32.9%) (19.5%) 7. I avoid library because most information resources I need are on the Internet or stored in my laptop, my phones, etc 8. The size of the university library is overwhelming (43.9%) (45.6%) (10.5%) 9. The library lavatories are too smelly and unhygienic (39.6%) (41.2%) (19.2%) 10. My inability to use the university library use (54.2%) (25.4%) (20.9%) 11. I have no good knowledge of the library because I attended a secondary school without standard library 12. I'm shy that I don't know how to study (13.8%) (20.9%) 13. The library is a comfortable place to study (48.7%) (31.1%) (20.2%)	5.	I have a general phobia or hatred for	249	315	227	791
6. The noise inside the library causes a lot of distraction 377 260 154 791 7. I avoid library because most information resources I need are on the Internet or stored in my laptop, my phones, etc 377 295 119 791 8. The size of the university library is overwhelming 347 361 83 791 9. The library lavatories are too smelly and unhygienic 313 326 152 791 10. My inability to use the university ibrary is because I lack previous experience of library use (54.2%) (35.4%) (10.4%) 791 11. I have no good knowledge of the library (36.8%) (42.2%) (20.9%) 791 12. I' m shy that I don't know how to use the library (38.8%) (40.1%) (21.1%) 791 13. The library is a comfortable place to study 385 246 160 791		going to the library	(31.5%)	(39.8%)	(28.7%)	
lot of distraction	6.		377	260	154	791
information resources I need are on the Internet or stored in my laptop, my phones, etc 8. The size of the university library is overwhelming (43.9%) (45.6%) (10.5%) 9. The library lavatories are too smelly and unhygienic (39.6%) (41.2%) (19.2%) 10. My inability to use the university library is because I lack previous experience of library use 11. I have no good knowledge of the library because I attended a secondary school without standard library 12. I' m shy that I don't know how to use the library is a comfortable place to study 13. The library is a comfortable place to study 14. (47.7%) (37.3%) (15.0%) 361			(47.7%)	(32.9%)	(19.5%)	
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my phones, etc			(47.7%)	(37.3%)	(15.0%)	
my phones, etc		the Internet or stored in my laptop,	,	,		
8. The size of the university library is overwhelming 347 (43.9%) 361 (45.6%) 83 (791 (10.5%) 9. The library lavatories are too smelly and unhygienic 313 (326 (19.2%)) 152 (19.2%) 10. My inability to use the university library is because I lack previous experience of library use 429 (35.4%) 82 (10.4%) 11. I have no good knowledge of the library because I attended a secondary school without standard library 334 (42.2%) (20.9%) 12. I' m shy that I don't know how to use the library (38.8%) (40.1%) (21.1%) 13. The library is a comfortable place to study 385 (48.7%) 246 (31.1%) 160 (20.2%)		*				
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10. My inability to use the university library is because I lack previous experience of library use 429 280 82 791 11. I have no good knowledge of the library because I attended a secondary school without standard library (36.8%) (42.2%) (20.9%) 12. I' m shy that I don't know how to use the library (38.8%) (40.1%) (21.1%) 13. The library is a comfortable place to study 385 246 160 791		and unhygienic	(39.6%)	(41.2%)	(19.2%)	
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11. I have no good knowledge of the library because I attended a secondary school without standard library 291 334 166 791 12. I' m shy that I don't know how to use the library (307 317 167 791 13. The library is a comfortable place to study 385 246 160 791 (38.7%) (31.1%) (20.2%) 791		library is because I lack previous	(54.2%)	(35.4%)	(10.4%)	
11. I have no good knowledge of the library because I attended a secondary school without standard library 291 334 166 791 12. I' m shy that I don't know how to use the library (307 317 167 791 13. The library is a comfortable place to study 385 246 160 791 (38.7%) (31.1%) (20.2%) 791		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	, ,		,	
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use the library (38.8%) (40.1%) (21.1%) 13. The library is a comfortable place to study 385 246 160 791 (48.7%) (31.1%) (20.2%)	12.		307	317	167	791
13. The library is a comfortable place to study						
study (48.7%) (31.1%) (20.2%)	13.	-	,			791
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
177	14.	The library lacks information	410	263	118	791
resources that I need (51.8%) (33.2%) (14.9%)		•	(51.8%)			
15. The shelving arrangement is too 291 339 161 791	15.		` '		1	791

	complex and confusing	(36.8%)	(42.9%)	(20.4%)	
16.	Poor ventilation causes uneasiness	328	335	128	791
	and avoidance of the library	(41.5%)	(42.4%)	(16.2%)	
17.	Insufficient library lockers causes	346	301	144	791
	insecurity about property's safety	(43.7%)	(38.1%)	(18.2%)	
	and causes stress and library				
	avoidance				
18.	The strict and stringent library		286	140	791
	regulations cause me to avoid the	(46.1%)	(36.2%)	(17.7%)	
	library				
19.	Lack of security and protection for		308	142	791
	personal possessions make me to	(43.1%)	(38.9%)	(17.9%)	
	stay away from the library				
20.	Poor lighting system in the library		276	162	791
	makes visibility and reading	(44.6%)	(34.9%)	(20.5%)	
	hazardous and stressful				
21.	Mingling with opposite sex inside	310	303	178	791
	the library makes me uncomfortable	(39.2%)	(38.3%)	(22.5%)	
22.	The heat inside library any time	316	313	162	791
	there is power outage makes reading	(39.9%)	(39.6%)	(20.5%)	
	in the library uninteresting				

Key: A=Agreed, was used to represent Agreed and Strongly Agreed. D=Disagreed, represents Disagreed and Strongly Disagreed while U=Undecided represents only Undecided.

Table 1 reveals that inability to use the university library was as a result of lack of previous experience in the use of library which recorded the highest figure of 429 (54.2%) as a major cause of library anxiety among new undergraduate students. This was closely followed by lack of information resources relevant to my field in the library which recorded 410(51.8%) and the complex structure of the library with 397(50.2%) respectively. This finding is not surprising because new undergraduate students are coming from secondary schools which either do not have library at all or the one they had, may just be of classroom sizes. This finding is supported by Ben-Jacob and Liebman (2010), Adeyemi (2010) and Lee (2011), in their separate studies on school library and what its poor standard could portend for secondary school graduates in their pursuit of higher education in institutions of higher learning. The summary of their findings was that secondary school leavers who are not disposed to the use of standard library and all its resources and services could easily be intimidated in their first encounter with the academic libraries and their complexities thereby creating anxiety in them. Reading in a library demands that students should have absolute concentration, because noise making in the library can cause distraction. Hence the finding discovered that 377(47.7%) of the respondents agreed that noise making does cause distraction in the library. Without enforcement of appropriate portions of the rules and regulations guiding the use of the library and particularly the portion that is against noise making in the library, the aim of reading in the library for ease of assimilation, full concentration and comprehension will be defeated.

In this digital age, access to information through Internet has been made easy and fast. This has created an impression in the mind of some people that they can access all information

resources they need from the Internet. Hence, they rarely need the services of the library. In this research 377(47.7%) of respondents agreed that they avoided library because most information resources they need are on the Internet or stored in their laptops, or phones as the library is mostly stocked with old and outdated information resources. This finding is in line with Kiilu and Otike (2016) who observed that Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) has failed to evolve in the same pace with what people experienced through the use of search engines like Google and Yahoo. The reason is that OPAC of a particular library without an Internet Protocol (IP) Address will only be visible to the host users who must have been given user name and pass words. Search engines have overtaken such domesticated OPAC of a library because one can access a wide range of information at one's convenience which is impossible to find in a single textbook in a library. This is however not to dismiss the importance of Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) as a modern means of using multiple access points to trace a publication stocked in the library.

On the spot assessment of the Federal University of Technology Akure (FUTA), library, showed that it has a very fine stand- alone building which is not competing with any other structure. It is well situated at a strategic area of the university campus for easy location. The broad library building complex is made up of three floors with different sections and units including spacious reading areas and offices. The library has good floor tiles, comfortable reading tables and chairs with fairly good lighting systems. It must be on the basis of such facilities in the library that made 385(48.7%) respondents to agree that, "The library is a comfortable place to study." Libraries, whether national, public, school or academic all over the world are guided by rules and regulations. Such rules and regulations are fashioned to ensure smooth running of the activities of such libraries. However, users may feel alienated if such rules and regulations are too stringent. The finding of this research revealed that 365(46.1%) of respondents agreed that strict and stringent library regulations cause them to avoid using the library.

Responding to the statement that the overwhelming size of the university library can cause anxiety, 361(45.6%) of the respondents disagreed that the size of the library can cause them anxiety. This could be so because they might have come across bigger buildings such as the Senate building and lecture theatres in the university. The fact that they are also in disagreement with the layout of the information resources; shelving arrangement in the library and ventilation in the library as causing library anxiety indicates that the layout of information resources, the shelving arrangement as well as ventilation in the library are all good and can easily be accessed.

Table 2: Extent at which library environment influences library anxiety from new undergraduate students in Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State

S/N	Extent at which library environment influences library anxiety from new	Responses			Total
	undergraduate students in Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State	I	NI	U	
1.	The university library lacks interior decoration that makes library attractive	302 (38.2%)	265 (33.5%)	224 (28.3%)	791
2.	The library location is too far from students' hostel thereby making reading at night difficult	282 (35.7%)	320 (40.5%)	189 (23.9%)	791
3.	Online public access catalogue is too technical	274 (34.6%)	287 (36.3%)	230 (29.1%)	791
4.	The library air conditioners are functioning very well	328 (41.5%)	334 (42.2%)	129 (16.3%)	791
5.	The furniture in the library such as tables and chairs are not too comfortable for reading	274 (34.6%)	287 (36.3%)	230 (29.1%)	791
6.	No room is provided for group discussion in the library.	318 (40.2%)	381 (48.2%)	92 (11.6%)	791
7.	Students are not allowed to operate or handle library's printer, photocopier or scanner	365 (46.1%)	284 (35.9%)	142 (18%)	791
8.	Shelves are not conspicuously labeled for easy and quick identification of information resources.	377 (47.7%)	260 (32.9%)	154 (19.5%)	791
9.	Lack of familiarity with the library and its arrangement makes me avoid the library	335 (42.4%)	306 (38.6%)	150 (19%)	791
10.	I have no good knowledge of the library because the secondary school I attended lacks standard library	341 (43.1%)	286 (36.2%)	164 (20.7%)	791
11.	I don't feel physically safe in the library because the security apparatus around the library are doubtful	388 (49.1%)	297 (28.4%)	178 (22.5%)	791

Key: I=Influenced, represents Influenced and Highly Influenced. NI=Not Influenced, represents Rarely Influenced and Not Influencedwhile U=Undecided represents only Undecided.

Table 2 indicates that there was feeling of unsafe in the library because the security apparatus around the library are doubtful. It is therefore, not surprising when 388(49.1%) of the respondents agreed to the statement that says, 'I don't feel physically safe in the library because the security apparatus around the library are doubtful.' The absence of adequate security covering the university campus and particularly the university library would heighten anxiety which may provoke fear and as such scare new undergraduate students from using the library. This palpable fear may be justified when viewed from the fact that issues of security are issues of greater concern that has to do with life which has no gender bias. Another issue of greater concern to the new undergraduate students is the difficulties they do face whenever they are in the library to locate information resources. The difficulty was as a result of lack of conspicuous

labels on library shelves. A total of 377(47.7%) of respondents agreed that lack of conspicuous labels on shelves made it difficult to access information thereby causing a lot of anxiety for new undergraduate students. Proper shelf labeling is very important in a library. This will guide users to locate their ways around the library. Also discovered from the study was that 365(46.1%) of the respondents expressed that their inability to freely operate or handle library's printer, photocopier or scanner caused them anxiety. This is in contrast to the practice of the 21st century library services in some advanced countries where libraries lend facilities like calculators, headphones, laptops, phone chargers, USB drives, umbrellas and even loan a librarian to users all with the arm of making libraries friendlier as well as attracting users to regularly use the library (Adegbilero-Iwari, 2018). The fear of damage and the consequences of replacement may also have been responsible for preventing new undergraduate students from using machines like photocopier, printer and scanner or the outright denial to operate such equipment. The outcome of this finding was in agreement with Carlile (2007) who pointed out in his work that preventing students from using the library machines could make them exhibit library avoidance behavior thereby causing them to rarely visit the library. Reacting to the statement that 'No room is provided for group discussion in the library, 381(48.2%) of the respondents believed that lack of separate rooms for group discussion does not discourage them from making use of the library. This stand of respondents may not be surprising because one of the facilities that institutions of higher learning such as universities, polytechnics and others must make provisions for, before being granted accreditation for their programmes are classrooms, laboratories, libraries, demonstration farms, equipment, etc. As one of the Federal Universities of note, these facilities may not essentially be lacking at the Federal University of Technology (FUTA) Akure. In the same vein, 334(42.2%) of respondents believed that whether the library air conditioners functions very well or not does not influence their use of the library. The reason for this may not be far-fetched because some people avoid staying under air conditioners due to their health conditions. Some people that suffer from such ailments like arthritis, catarrh, asthma, rheumatism, chest pains etc; run away from using air conditioners because it usually compounds their problems. Whatever can affect the health of readers negatively must not be treated with levity, because as the popular saying goes, health is wealth. It therefore behooves on the authority of the university library that greater attention is paid to this issue as it has to do with human health. Therefore, a well ventilated library having many windows that allow sufficient natural air and other cooling devices such as fans of different types like standing fans, ceiling fans and wall fans would make the library reading areas conducive for readers especially new undergraduate students.

Inferential Analysis

The two hypotheses were analysed using One-Way Anova. The presentation is as follows:

Null Hypothesis One

HO₁: There is no significant difference in the causes of library anxiety among the New Undergraduate Students in the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo, State.

The analysis of the data collected is presented in Tables 1.3.

Table 3: Significant Difference among New Undergraduate Students on the Causes of Library Anxiety in the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State

	Sum of				
Responses	Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	526.051	4	131.513	.314	.869
Within Groups	329436.652	786	419.131		
Total	329962.703	790			

Table 3 reveals that the P value was represented by 0.869. Since α (0.05) was used for this hypothesis, the null hypothesis one was retained because the P value (0.869) was greater than α (0.05). It is concluded that there is no significant difference in the causes of library anxiety among the new undergraduate students in the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo, State. From this finding, it can be seen that the causes of library anxiety among new undergraduate students in the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo, State were the same. The outcome of this findings have been validated by the findings of previous researchers on causes of library anxiety by Hasan, et al (2014); and Buck and Houzé (2014).

Null Hypothesis Two

HO₂: There is no significant difference in the influence of library environment on anxiety among new undergraduate students in Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo, State. The analysis of the data collected was presented in Table 1.4.

Table 4: Significant Difference on the Influence of Library Environment on Anxiety of New Undergraduate Students in Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo, State

	Sum of				
Responses	Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	206.905	4	51.726	.482	.749
Within Groups	84362.083	786	107.331		
Total	84568.989	790			

Table 4 reveals that the P value was represented by 0.749. Since α (0.05) was used for this hypothesis, the null hypothesis Two was retained because the P value (0.749) was greater than α (0.05). Thus, it is concluded that there is no significant difference in the influence of library anxiety on new undergraduate students' interaction with library equipment in the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo, State. This is because over the past two decades, technologies have become the dominant force that shapes and reshapes the resources, facilities and services that the 21st century academic libraries offer to students. Hence, the finding showed that the factors that influenced library anxiety in new undergraduate students' interaction with library equipment in the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo, State are similar. This is an indication that the library anxiety experienced by new undergraduate students on their interaction with library equipment at the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo, State must be addressed holistically by the management of the University Library.

Summary of Findings

Based on the data collected and analysed in this study, the following are the major findings of this study:

- 1. Majority of the respondents indicated that they were not able to use the university library because of lack of previous experience of library use in Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo, State.
- 2. Majority of the respondents indicated that they were not physically safe in the library because the security apparatus around the library are doubtful in Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo, State.
- 3. There is no significant difference in the causes of library anxiety among the new undergraduate students in the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo, State.
- 4. There is no significant difference in the influence of library anxiety on new undergraduate students' interaction with library equipment in the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo, State.

Conclusion

From the analysis and summary of findings of this research, it is concluded that library environment influenced the anxiety of new undergraduate students in Federal University of Technology Akure, Ondo State, Nigeria. This is because the technical process, availability of Internet, constant light, user relationship with library staff, user literacy, adequate signs among other components of library environment were not in complete condition as required by the students to access the library. This might be the reason why they found it difficult to use the information resources and services in the library.

Recommendations

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

- 1. The management of the library should make sure that an information literacy course is taught at least two or more semesters to new undergraduate students. This is important part of library environment activity. This will improve their knowledge on the use of academic libraries in the university. This is because some of the students lacked previous experience in the use of academic libraries in Federal University of Technology Akure, Ondo State, Nigeria.
- 2. The management of the library should provide chairs and desks that will bring more comfort to the students for their information access. These are tools that constitute library environment. Also, there is need for well labeled shelves and other signages to make it easy for new students to access information resources and services from the library to reduce their anxiety in Federal University of Technology Akure, Ondo State, Nigeria.

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